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Japan

Miyazawa: Nation Feels Responsible for Aggression

OW0612155891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1520 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said on Friday the Japanese people "feel a deep sense of responsibility for unbearable damage and grief Japan inflicted on the peoples of the United States and Oceanian and Asian countries (before and during World War II)."

Miyazawa made the comment to reporters at his official residence in connection with the 50th anniversary of Japan's 1941 surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

"I think Japan's efforts to make reparations for the past misconduct are being recognized (by the world), as Japan has made sincere efforts to contribute to the peace and prosperity of the world with (our determination) not to become a military superpower again under the new constitution since Japan's defeat in the last war," he said.

As for Japan-U.S. relations, the prime minister said the two nations, whose combined gross national products account for more than 40 percent of the world total, must be ready to assume a global responsibility for the creation of a new world order.

"I hope that the two nations build up their relations with a forward-looking posture over the next 50 years," he said.

"I would like to talk with U.S. President George Bush who is coming to Japan (in January) from this perspective," he said.

Spokesman Says Japan To Renew Peace Resolution

OW0612143191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1416 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 (KYODO)—The top government spokesman said Friday that Japan will renew its resolution to "live on as a peaceful nation" on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said at a regular press conference the Japanese Government and people, with deep reflection over the "unbearable sadness and agony" Japan inflicted on countries in Asia and the Pacific during World War II, are determined not to repeat such unfortunate history.

Regarding the Japan-U.S. [words indistinct] Kato said it is "a historic event" that two countries that once fought a war have developed such a close and good relationship with no similar example in the world.

He also said that he hopes the relationship will be "future-oriented" and trustful.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said at the House of Representatives plenary session Friday thinking about the future Japan-U.S. relationship is more important than dwelling on past events.

Miyazawa made the remark in response to a demand by Sumi Fujita, a Japanese Communist Party legislator, that the prime minister protest to U.S. President George Bush, who said he has no intention of apologizing to Japan for the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Miyazawa said Japan and the United States should build a relationship toward the future to cooperate in contributing to world peace and prosperity.

Not To Press A-Bomb Apology

OW0612112791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 (KYODO)—A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday while many Japanese feel the United States owes Japan an apology for dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II, the government has "no intention" of pressing for an apology.

The spokesman, Taizo Watanabe, told Japanese reporters there are many Japanese who feel "a U.S. apology for Hiroshima and Nagasaki is in order," and added Japan has pointed it out "on all sorts of occasions" to the United States.

His remarks are in response to a recent WASHINGTON POST newspaper interview with Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe in which he said Japan would not seek an apology.

Earlier, U.S. President George Bush said while he regrets the fate of the innocent victims of the atomic bombings he is far from apologizing for the action, which he said saved countless American lives by speeding an end to the war.

Spokesman Watanabe said he agreed with a recent controversial WASHINGTON POST translation in which the foreign minister was quoted as having "remorse" for the sufferings Japan caused during the war. Watanabe said "remorse" was an accurate translation of "hansei," the Japanese word used by the minister.

He said he saw no contradiction in an earlier government translation of "hansei" as being "contrition" when former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu used it during a visit to Southeast Asia.

Government To Seek International Alliance on Rice

OW0612042691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0357 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Japan will seek alliances with South Korea, Canada, Mexico, and several other nations to block the intensifying pressure in global trade talks to open their heavily protected rice markets, government officials said Friday.

The government, using diplomatic channels, will call for a joint effort from 14 other nations to oppose a prevalent idea in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks of converting all farm subsidies into tariffs. The government will dispatch its farm officials to about 10 of the 14 countries to formulate common negotiating points for the talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The 10 countries include Malaysia, India, Egypt, Mexico, and Jamaica.

In search for a breakthrough in the knotty issue of farm trade reform in the 108-member round, the United States and the European Community (EC) are pushing the so-called "tariffication" scheme for farm subsidies under which farm-related nontariff barriers would be converted into tariffs and then be reduced gradually. The idea has upset Japan, South Korea, Canada, and other countries which fear that this would lead to an eventual opening of their politically sensitive rice markets.

Informed sources said the government has decided to take the unusual step, encouraged to know at a recent GATT plenary session that many developing nations feel uneasy with the accerelating move toward tariffication.

NHK Interviews GATT Director General Dunkel

OW0512144691 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1205 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Interview with Arthur Dunkel, director general of the GATT, by Tadashi Sonoda; Dunkel is at an unidentified location in Genava and Sonoda is at the Tokyo NHK studio; from the "NHK 21 News" program—recorded in English with superimposed Japanese translations]

[Text] [Video starts by showing split screen image of Dunkel and Sonoda] [Sonoda] Do you feel that an agreement will be reached this year at the Uruguay Round?

[Dunkel] Well, I think there is a large possibility. However, the agreement will depend on the political decisions of the participating nations; it also will depend on what steps world leaders will take. They met at the London summit and personally pledged to work for progress at the Uruguay Round. The agreement at the Uruguay Round will depend on how much effort they make.

[Sonoda] The success of farm negotiations will depend on an agreement between the United States and the European Community. Do you think they will reach an agreement in the near future?

[Dunkel] What I want to point out among other things is that the Uruguay Round is a multinational negotiation. Therefore, the negotiations must not be viewed as simple. For example, it is too easy to say that negotiations depend on whether the United States and the European Community can reach an agreement.

[Sonoda] Is an unexceptional application of tariffication indispensable to settling the farm negotiations? Is there any possibility of reaching a compromise through other alternatives?

[Dunkel] Tariffication is a normal means. The GATT has proposed tariffication as a means to remove border barriers on imports. The application of tariffication does not necessarily mean a total abolishment of agricultural protective measures.

[Sonoda] The current self-sufficiency rate of grain in Japan is merely 30 percent. Japan asserts that it would be difficult for it to open its grain market wider. Do you think Japan's assertion is selfish?

[Dunkel] Well, I have no personal view on that question. However, all participating nations have their own position to advocate and their own perspectives. No nation talks about its self-sufficiency in terms of cars and ships. Why do you make a distinction between farm produce and industrial goods?

[Sonoda] Given the domestic political situation, it is very difficult for the Japanese Government to accept the application of tariffication without exceptions.

[Dunkel] I know that this is a difficult task for the Japanese Government. I also know that Japanese farmers vehemently oppose the opening of Japan's rice market through tariffication. I have received about 300 letters like this one [video shows Dunkel picking up a letter from desk]. I understand that it is very difficult for Japan to accept tariffication. However, the U.S. Government also faces a difficult situation. For example, the U.S. Government has thus far taken measures to quantitatively restrict imports of beef, sugar, and other farm products. It would also be difficult for the United States to import them through tariffication. Neither are Finland and Australia exceptional. All governments are compelled to make difficult decisions. The Uruguay Round aims not to preserve the present trading system, but to bring changes. The changes will make it possible for the economy to grow and will create jobs. Therefore, Japan alone cannot be treated as exceptional. In terms of economy, there is no substantial difference between farm produce and other industrial products. In the case of agriculture, however, issues involving this are apt to become emotional because agriculture is part of the culture of all societies. This is a clear point. However, I would like to ask you to recall the past 40 years. There are nations that have efficiently managed their agriculture, and most of them are developing nations. They have not benefitted from their efficient management of agriculture. However, nations like Japan that are efficiently producing industrial products have benefited greatly. This situation should not be permitted.

[Sonoda] If Japan and some other nations oppose the application without exceptions of tariffication to the end, how are you going to deal with this opposition?

[Dunkel] I am not responsible for that. All participating nations are responsible for that. As you are aware, the present situation indicates the need for building a strong trading system. We are going to revitalize the trading system. East European nations, Central European nations, and Latin American nations need this strong trading system. Longtime GATT member nations also need a strong trading system. The system is needed to bring economic growth. Japan's economic growth is in a slow period. Therefore we must not make mistakes at the Uruguay Round. We should not fail at the Uruguay Round because of individual issues such as tons of grain or tons of rice. We should make the Uruguay Round a success from a long-term prospective.

[Sonoda] This is my last question. In case no agreement is reached at the Uruguay Round, would the rounds be broken off?

[Dunkel] Why are you so pessimistic? You have asked me how I would deal with it if no agreement is reached at the Uruguay Round. If your question represents the mood in your nation, I am extremely concerned. Major nations like Japan should attend the Uruguay Round with the attitude of making it a success instead of worrying about what will happen if the Uruguay Round fails to produce an agreement. Japan has a responsibility to make the Uruguay Round a success. Though I do not ask African and Latin American nations to take the initiative in making the Uruguay Round successful, it is quite natural for me to ask the United States, the European Community, and Japan to do so. Efforts need to be made to that end. It is necessary to balance various interests. We should think of the interests of the entire international community instead of thinking of the interests of the individual nation. The world now needs a solid economic framework. We can be drawn into a dangerous situation without it.

[Sonoda] Thank you very much.

[Dunkel] You are welcome.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary on Rice Issue

OW0512145691 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1212 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Interview with Motoji Kondo, deputy chief cabinet secretary and former minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, by Tadashi Sonoda; from the "NHK News 21 Program"—live]

[Text] [Sonoda] Mr. Kondo, GATT Director-General Dunkel has said that no problems have been raised with regard to self-sufficiency in industrial products, and he has questioned why Japan insists on self-sufficiency in agricultural products. By this, Director-General Dunkel has criticized Japan for its arguments. Do you think that such arguments as the food security theory or the policy requiring Japan to maintian self-sufficiency in its rice supply will be a persuasive force in international political circles?

[Kondo] The point at issue lies in the basic difference between importing and exporting countries. Generally speaking, the so-called Cairns group—with the United States playing the leading role—has constantly stated that liberalizing imports of the world's agricultural products would lead to food security. As far as Japan is concerned, we have maintained that security of the world's food supply can be achieved through efforts made by each individual country to increase its own self-sufficiency in food, and also through support for such efforts by industrialized countries. I think that is the reason why differences in views exist.

[Sonoda] It has been voiced within the Liberal Democratic Party that Japan should respond to the argument for tariffication. At the same time, practical views have been expressed on the measures for opening up the market. Mr. Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, what do you think of such moves?

[Kondo] Well, as I understand that only a small number of people have expressed their views on accepting tariffication. Opinions have been expressed that minimal access should be accepted so as to more or less open up the market; that we should not let Japanese-U.S. relations deteriorate any further; that Japan should not become the country that upsets the Uruguay Round because Japan has received the greatest benefits from the free trade system, and therefore we must bring about a successful conclusion to the talks. In this connection, we are concerned with the possibility that our country may become isolated.

However, the actual negotiations at the Uruguay Round have not reached such a situation yet. I hope that our stance will be understood. This is how I now feel.

[Sonoda] If Japan should persist in rejecting the idea of tariffication without exception, or the opening of the rice market, it might result in the breakdown of negotiations at the Uruguay Round. Would it be all right to believe that Japan's policy is to persist in rejecting tarrification despite the possibility that Japan might be treated as the "rogue"?

[Kondo] During the past five years, Japan has made efforts to advance in the orientation of liberalizing imports of agricultural products, and I think that every country has appraised such efforts. In particular, rice is our staple food. When it comes to these principal foods, I think each country in the world has its own problems in connection with different agricultural products, not to mention the rice issue in Japan.

Of course, it is now a common understanding at the GATT that tariffication should be basically accepted. Under such circumstances, would it not be all right to admit some exceptions, particularly for staple foods as defined in the above argument? We have been arguing that tariffication, with some exceptions, will bring about the conclusion of overall negotiations on agricultural issues at the Uruguay Round, and also lead to a successful conclusion. In this sense we hope that other nations will make positive efforts to understand our arguments.

The Dunkel paper was issued the other day, and in this paper a proposal was made for introducing comprehensive tariffication. However, as I understand things, nine of the participating countries have stated their intention to oppose this proposal. In this connection I would like to state my hope that in order to win the understanding of these countries, more positive efforts will be made to promote further discussions on the definition of staple foods.

[Sonoda] Thank you very much, Mr. Kondo.

Foreign Minister, PRC's Tian Jiyun Hold Talks

China To Sign Nonproliferation Treaty

OW0512151591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1451 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun pledged Thursday that China will sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), possibly by early 1992, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said Jiyun, who arrived in Tokyo Monday on a 10-day visit, made the pledge in talks with Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Jiyun was also quoted as saying China will consider a United Nations resolution to establish a register of conventional weapons exports, which is cosponsored by Japan and the European Community.

Tian, whose areas of responsibility include agriculture and foreign economic relations, is the first Chinese leader to visit Japan since Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa took office over a month ago.

If China signs the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which aims to check the spread of nuclear weapons and their related technology, it will be the last of the five declared nuclear powers to do so.

As for conventional weapons transfers, Tian was quoted as saying China will abide by any international agreement as long as it is "fair, rational, and balanced."

Officials said Watanabe stressed that Japan is anxious to see improved relations between China and the United States and that Japan hopes Beijing will continue efforts in that direction.

Tian replied that U.S. Secretary James Baker's recent visit to Beijing was an "important step" towards a normalization of ties.

He said China wants to promote that positive trend and does not intend to take any steps to aggravate its relationship with the U.S. Officials said the vice premier thanked Japanese leaders for their more "far-sighted" approach to relations with China after the June 1989 Tiananmen Square incident. Chinese troops brutally put down a prodemocracy demonstration at Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

Watanabe was quoted as telling Tian that Japan is "greatly concerned" with North Korea's nuclear development program.

He said Tokyo considers Pyongyang's acceptance of international inspection of its nuclear facilities, as required of it as a NPT signatory state, to be a condition for a normalization of ties.

Officials said Tian denied that China is cooperating in any way with North Korea in the development of nuclear weapons.

Tian was quoted as inviting Watanabe to visit Japan. Foreign Ministry sources did not rule out a possible January visit, but said there could be scheduling complications de to Diet business then.

Tian also repeated his earlier invitation, conveyed to Miyazawa, for Emperor Akihito to visit Beijing.

Officials said Watanabe replied merely that the matter is currently under consideration.

Chinese Ship Fires Warning Shots at Freighter

OW0612095091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0928 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Naha, Dec. 6 (KYODO)—A ship flying a Chinese flag fired warning shots Friday at a Japanese freighter in the East China Sea off the Senkaku Islands claimed by China, Japan's Maritime Safety Agency officials said.

The number of shots, apparently by pistol, were not immediately known but no damage or injuries were reported, the officials said.

The officials said two agency patrol boats hurried to the scene.

The shots fired by the unidentified Chinese ship toward the 42,407-ton Henry Hudson bridge operated by Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha with 11 crew members aboard were made around 9:30 A.M., some 220 kilometers north of the islands.

The ship, which bore a Chinese name, was approaching behind the Japanese vessel, they said.

The Japanese ship was heading for Gaoxiong in Taiwan from Pusan in South Korea.

The officials said there have been 12 cases of warning shots fired toward Japanese cargo and fishing ships off the islands since March.

A territorial dispute over the islands has been simmering among Japan, China, and Taiwan over the Senkaku Islands group, called Diaoyutai in Chinese.

Upper House Panel Chairman on UN Bill Resigns

OW0512155791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1408 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—The chairman of the upper house special committee on the U.N. Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill Thursday submitted a letter of resignation to a senior member of the committee because of health problems, party officials said.

Masao Goto, 77, of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] resigned as chairman on the first day of committee deliberations on the controversial peacekeeping bill.

The House of Councillors started Wednesday discussion of the controversial bill following its approval Tuesday by the powerful House of Representatives.

Shinichiro Shimojo, LDP's member of the committee board, is likely to succeed Goto as soon as an election is held at the committee meeting Friday morning, the officials said.

Observers said that Goto seemed to have made up his mind to resign as chairman following a stalled deliberations Thursday.

The peacekeeping bill, which paves the way for limited overseas deployment of Self-Defense Forces for U.N. peacekeeping operations, was adopted in the lower house with the support of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the No. 2 opposition group Komeito.

New Chairman Elected

OW0612061691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0550 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The House of Councillors special committee on the U.N. Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill elected former Health and Welfare Minister Shinichiro Shimojyo on Friday to succeed Masao Goto, who resigned suddenly as committee chairman Thursday night. The opening of the upper house committee session was delayed for 90 minutes because of protests by opposition party members over Goto's resignation.

Goto, 77, like Shimojyo a member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), resigned his post for health reasons on the first day of committee deliberations on the controversial bill which would empower the government to send Japanese soldiers to join U.N. peacekeeping operations.

At an executive meeting of the special committee Friday morning, members of the leading opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) demanded Goto attend the meeting and explain the reasons for his surprise resignation. Other opposition members of the panel supported the SDP's request. SDP members said Goto was not hospitalized and did not submit a medical examination certificate to the committee. They raised objections to installing Shimojyo as new chairman, whom they called a supporter of the controversial bill.

However, the LDP rejected the demands of the opposition parties. The opposition parties later agreed to resume the committee meeting after the LDP gave up its turn to question the government on the bill and agreed to delay the start of the session.

Shimojyo told the committee he will serve "fairly and without vested interests," and that he understands his responsibilities as chairman. Shimojyo also said he will bear in mind former Chairman Goto's remark that he would not railroad the disputed bill through the committee, as happened in the corresponding panel in the House of Representatives. Goto apparently made up his mind to resign as chairman following stalled deliberations in the first day's session.

The House of Councillors started deliberations on the bill Wednesday following its approval Tuesday by the powerful House of Representatives. Opposition groups have vowed they will do their utmost to have the bill withdrawn.

The bill, which paves the way for overseas deployment of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to join United Nations peacekeeping operations, was adopted in the lower house with the support of the LDP and Komeito, the second-largest opposition group.

Signature Drive for Burmese Opposition Leader

OW0512053791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0320 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—Two groups of people from Myanmar [Burma] living in Japan are seeking signatures nationwide to petition the country's military junta to free opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, a group leader said Thursday.

The Kanagawa-based International Network for Democracy in Burma and the Shizuoka-based Burmese Association in Japan started collecting signatures with two other international human rights groups just after Aung San Suu Kyi won this year's Nobel Peace Prize on October 14, said Tun Aye, the Kanagawa group's central coordinator.

As of about two weeks ago, the four groups had collected some 6,000 signatures but they hope to reach 100,000 by December 10—when an award ceremony is scheduled in Oslo—and send them to Myanmar's military government through the country's embassy in Japan, Tun Aye said.

He said he hopes stepped-up cooperation would bring the prompt release of Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for more than two years despite her party overwhelming victory in national elections in 1990.

Democratization in Myanmar is impossible without her, Tun Aye said.

Korean 'Comfort Girls' Sue for Compensation

OW0612064991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0529 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Calling for justice 50 years after the start of the Pacific war, three Korean woman forced to become prostitutes for Japanese soldiers and other Korean conscripts who never received pay filed suit against the Japanese Government Friday for 700 million yen in compensation. It was the first time former "comfort girls" publicly demanded redress for their suffering from the Japanese Government.

In parliamentary debate, government officials have shunned responsibility for the estimated 100,000 to 200,000 women forced to engage in sex with Japanese soldiers, maintaining they were under private management. Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato commented Friday that the government faces difficulties because its searches have failed to turn up evidence that the government was involved.

The suit, filed at the Tokyo District Court by 35 former Korean conscripts, workers, and their bereaved family members, is the latest effort by Japan's former colonial subjects to win government recognition for wartime abuses. The plaintiffs are each demanding 20 million yen.

Kim Hak-sun, 69, who at age 17 was told a "good job" was waiting for her and was subsequently shipped to an army brothel in China, said she was "lucky" to be in Japan to press her case because thousands of women like her perished in foreign lands.

"Why does the Japanese Government lie and say it is not involved? I can't allow it," she said in a tearful and angry statement at a news conference.

"If possible I want my youth returned," she said.

Other plaintiffs made emotional pleas for compensation for injuries suffered during the war, and loss of life of their loved ones.

"Fifty years after the war the government has done nothing to compensate us," said Yi Yong-han, 79, who lost his right forearm when a Japanese ship he was on was blown up in seas near Taiwan.

"The government has ignored our plight, which can only mean it holds us in contempt," he said.

While the Japanese Government has paid compensation to Japanese veterans, it says it has no obligation to former conscripts who are no longer Japanese citizens. The Japanese Government also maintains that it has paid war indemnities at the government level and has no obligation to meet individual claims.

Emphasizing that the government regards compensation a closed case, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told a Diet committee Thursday that payments to individuals would create a substantial tax burden, creating unmanageable finanancial problems for the government.

Last month six South Koreans alleged to have been war criminals sought 130 million yen in compensation in a suit that said they were wrongly accused. Members of a Japanese civic group assisting the plaintiffs said that further suits are planned.

Mizuho Fukushima, counsel for the group of 35, said that the suit was filed on the eve of the 50th anniversary of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor to remind Japanese that the war was not against the U.S. alone, and that many victims in Asia are still seeking redress for their sufferings.

Spokesman: Issue Already Settled

OW0612092091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0833 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 (KYODO)—Japan feels "compassion" toward the tens of thousands of Korean women forced to sexually accomodate Japanese soldiers in the period preceding the end of World War II a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

But the spokesman, Taizo Watanabe, said the question of financial compensation related to that page in history has already been settled "for good."

Watanabe was speaking after a group of 35 South Koreans, including three women forced to become "comfort girls" and ex-conscripts who never received remuneration, filed suit in Tokyo against the Japanese Government Friday for 700 million yen in compensation.

He told foreign correspondents Japan sympathizes with the "serious and painful suffering they have gone through."

"As to how to deal with this particular legal procedure, a study is now being conducted by the government offices concerned," Watanabe said.

"In general terms, when it comes to individual claims to be handled between Japan and Korea, it has been settled completely and for good in the agreement of claims and economic cooperation in 1965," he said.

The spokesman said Japan would take that "fundamental position" into account in deciding "what we should do."

MITI 'Will Accept' Tool Restraint Extension

OW0512152491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1318 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—The United States will propose next week that Japan extend its expiring voluntary restraint on shipments of certain types of machine tools to the U.S., by two- to three-years, government officials said Thursday.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) will accept the proposal on some types of machine tools under the restraint due to expire at the end of December, said MITI officials.

In 1987 Japan agreed to limit export of various types of machine tools to the U.S. for five years.

Under the present restraint, three items, including machining centers and numerically controlled lathes, Japanese makers are keep their sales to within 19.25 to 57.47 percent of the U.S. market.

For three other items, including milling machines, the Japanese shipments are monitored so as not to top the 1985 share of the market.

With Japanese shipments currently below the export ceiling, strong opposition to the restraint by some U.S. makers may lead to changes in the items and export ceiling involved during upcoming consultations between the two countries.

Government To Scrap Textile-Linked Spending Curb

OW0612024691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0235 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] said Friday it will scrap its longstanding curb on capital spending by textiles companies, under criticism at home and abroad that the limits were anti-competitive.

The ministry told its panel discussing the validity of government-regulated cartels that the curbs will be gradually abolished by the end of October 1995.

The restriction on capital investment by textiles companies, introduced in 1957, has banned them from using machinery not registered with MITI so they would not overspend on manufacturing facilities and increase what was already heated competition.

The cartel, covering about 40 percent of all Japanese textiles companies, has kept existing companies from expanding their plants and equipment and newcomers from building new manufacturing facilities.

The United States has attacked the system as anticompetitive in the Japan-U.S. Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks.

A government panel proposed in July that the cartel be ended in line with a Japanese promise in an SII accord struck last year to beef up enforcement of its Antimonopoly Law.

Domestic critics also disapprove of the system, saying that what orginally was an emergency measure should not have remained in force for so long.

Because the industry has requested low-interest loans and other government support if the capital-spending limits are lifted, the ministry will seek government funding in the supplementary budget for the current fiscal year, the official said.

MITI To Insure Six Projects in Soviet Union

OW0512141191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 (KYODO)—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Thursday it will insure six projects in the Soviet Union.

It is the first case of insurance covering Japanese investment in the Soviet Union in 12 years.

All the six projects, valued at 640 million yen, are joint ventures between Japanese and Soviet companies, including a project costing more than 300 million yen to recycle aluminum alloys in the Soviet Far East, MITI officials said.

The announcement follows an earlier decision by MITI to underwrite insurance for Japanese companies investing in the Soviet Union.

MITI is now screening further requests for investment insurance on an additional 10 projects, the officials said.

Loan-Loss Reserves Permited for Soviet Credits

OW0612013891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0039 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The Finance Ministry plans to permit private banks with credits to the Soviet Union to set aside possible loan-loss reserves in the same way as it allows for loans to heavily indebted Latin American countries, ministry sources said Thursday night.

The ministry plans to take the measures for Japanese banks as U.S. and European banks have already taken the same measures, the sources said.

The combined Japanese bank loans to the Soviet Union amount to about 4 billion dollars currently.

The amount is relatively low compared with that owed to U.S. and European banks. Even if the Japanese loans turn into bad debts, it is not likely to have an impact on the Japanese creditors, they said.

The Soviet Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs on Thursday halted debt principal payments to its foreign creditors. Although payments of interest will be continued, the ministry is pessimistic about how long the Soviets can keep paying loan interests.

Treating loans to the Soviets like credits to Latin American nations means the ministry is interpreting Thursday's postponement by the Soviets of debt principal payments as a virtual default, the sources said.

Development Bank To Support Foreign Investment

OW0612125091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1119 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Gen Takahashi, president of the Japan Development Bank, said Friday the bank will increase loans to help promote foreign investment in Japan in fiscal 1992.

Takahashi made the remark in referring to the government's decision to increase the appropriation for the bank by 300 billion yen in the new fiscal year beginning April 1.

He said the extra funds will also be used to consolidate infrastructure through such things as expansion of telecommunications networks, as well as for urban development and the development of new technologies.

Takahashi welcomed the government's decision to increase the appropriation for the bank, saying it would help prop up the sagging domestic economy.

Government Decides on FY91 Supplementary Budget

OW0612022591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0115 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The government decided Friday on a supplementary budget of 266 billion yen for fiscal 1991 ending next March due to a sharp state revenue shortfall amid the slowdown in the Japanese economy.

The size of the supplementary budget is quite small compared with ones in the past four years amounting to about 3-5 trillion yen each year. The government will submit the supplementary budget to the Diet on Friday and seek approval by the end of this month, officials said.

The tax revenue projection for the fiscal year was revised downward by 2,782 billion yen. The downward revision of the tax revenue projection is the first in five years, the officials said. The government will issue 1,387 billion yen worth of construction bonds and use all of the 998.3 billion yen surplus funds earned in the fiscal 1990 budget. The government limited additional fiscal expenditures to financial assistance to the regions devastated by typhoons and other natural disasters and wage hikes for government employees.

The supplementary budget boosted fiscal 1991's total budget to 70.6 trillion yen, with government bonds accounting for 9.5 percent of the total. The government will also add 1.75 trillion yen to fiscal investment and loans for fiscal 1991 in response to growing calls for a fiscal stimulant to boost the sagging economy, the officials said.

Seeks Defense Spending Increase

OW0612040091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0226 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Japan's fiscal 1991 defense spending will total 4.44 trillion yen, including the supplementary budget, Defense Agency Chief Sohei Miyashita said Friday.

He said at a news conference that the total defense budget for the current fiscal year accounts for 0.966 percent of Japan's gross national product (GNP), or the total output of goods and services.

The supplementary budget calls for an increase of 53.9 billion yen in defense spending, adding to the original defense budget program of 4.38 trillion yen, or 0.954 percent of the nation's GNP.

Aids Turtle Shell Craftsmen

OW0612044191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The government's supplementary budget for the current fiscal year includes subsidies for tortoiseshell goods makers who will lose jobs when Japan bans imports of endangered hawksbill sea turtles in 1993, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Friday.

The MITI-related supplementary budget totaled 53.2 billion yen for fiscal 1991 ending March 31, 1992, almost half of last year's nearly 100 billion yen, a ministry official said.

Of the sum, 7.7 billion yen will be used to finance low-interest loans, subsidies, and other relief measures for turtle shell craftsmen.

Japan, under stiff U.S. pressure, pledged earlier this year to impose a ban on imports of the hawskbill turtle, whose trade is prohibited by an international treaty to protect endangered species.

The decision is expected to inflict damage on some 1,400 turtoiseshell craftsmen in Japan who are producing such goods as eyeglass frames, combs, and pendants from hawskbill shells.

The 1991 supplementary budget, totaling 266 billion yen, also involves 17.6 billion yen to finance the ministry's measure to protect the textile industry from possible damage from the just-announced scrapping of the intra-industry cartel.

The ministry announced it would abolish in four years its decades-old curb on textiles-related capital spending in line with Japan's pledge in Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) trade talks with the United States to boost enforcement of the Antimonopoly Law.

Also related to the ministry was 23.5 billion yen of transfers to the trade insurance special account used to fulfill an international accord on debt relief for Poland and Egypt.

Seeks Securities Watchdog Appropriations

OW0612125191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—The Finance Ministry asked Friday for extra appropriations of 100 million yen in the fiscal 1992 budget to create a securities industry watchdog, officials said.

The ministry plans to create the commission in July 1992 in order to prevent a repeat of the stock scandals that rocked the nation earlier this year.

Under present plans, the body will comprise a chairman, two commissioners, and an 84-person secretariat.

At the same time, a financial inspection department will be established in the Finance Ministry to replace the present banking and securities inspection divisions, the officials said.

Minister Stresses Issuance of Construction Bonds

OW0612043991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata on Friday stressed the need to hold a massive issuance of construction bonds to fill the anticipated gap between state revenues and expenditures in fiscal 1992. Hata said at a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting that the issuance of construction bonds will be necessary even after the ministry wields a big scythe to cut spending.

The ministry has estimated that the revenue in fiscal 1992, which starts April 1, 1992, will fall short of the expected outlays by about 6 trillion yen. The ministry plans to issue about 2.5 trillion yen in construction bonds as a means to compensate for the gap.

Hata, asked about the supplementary budget approved at Friday's cabinet meeting, said the largest-ever addition to fiscal investment and loans, approved along with the budget, is intended to prop up the floundering domestic economy.

Finance Ministry To Implement New Securities Law

OW0512142891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1255 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 (KYODO)—The Finance Ministry announced Thursday it will implement a revised Securities and Exchange Law imposing penalties on brokerages for compensating investors for market losses on January 1.

The law imposes a prison sentence of up to one year or a fine of up to 1 million yen on brokerage employees who offer compensation payments.

Under the law, customers who demand compensation are subject to a prison sentence of up to six months or a fine of up to 500,000 yen.

The law also prohibits brokerages from running discretionary accounts, which give them a hand in investing clients' funds.

Violators of this provision are subject to administrative punishment.

Doubts on Deregulating Brokerage Commissions Aired

OW0512141891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1132 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—Most members of a Finance Ministry advisory council expressed reservations Thursday on a proposed deregulation of stock brokerage commissions, officials said.

The Securities and Exchange Council held a meeting on the subject and a proposed clarification of [words indistinct] licensing brokerages.

The Finance Ministry plans to deregulate the commissions in phases, starting with large-lot stock trading.

The officials said there is strong resistance in the securities industry to a deregulation of commissions.

Some members of the council said "easy" deregulation should not be sought, while others called for a careful cost analysis in relation to the present fixed commissions.

As for the licensing standards, some council members called for promotion of intraindustry competition through the abolishment of the Securities and Exchange Law's clause 3, article 31 that tends to limit competition.

The council is scheduled to meet December 17 and 20.

Firm To Conduct Tests in Mir Space Station

OW0512132391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1215 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—Fujitsu Ltd. disclosed Thursday it will conduct two-month biotechnological experiments in the Soviet space station Mir.

The Japanese electronics manufacturer, making the announcement with the Society of Japanese Aerospace Companies, said the experiments will involve the crystallization of proteins in preparation for the development of biocomputers and biosensors.

The proposed biocomputer is to use biological circuits made up of proteins and work like the human brain, officials said.

The experiments, which will be placed aboard the space station January 21, will take place in weightless conditions in a protein crystallization device developed by the U.S. company Payload Systems Inc. of Massachusetts, which acted as an intermediary with Soviet authorities.

The proteins involved are difficult to crystallize on the ground, the officials said.

Fujitsu conducted similar experiments for 10 hours in a Soviet satellite two years ago but those tests covered more common types of protein.

The experiments will be brought back to earth on March 24.

Researchers Make Neural Computer Breakthrough

OW0512133991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Sendai, Dec. 5 KYODO—A group of researchers at Tohoku University announced Thursday they have developed a new transistor which they claim is a breakthrough in developing a pocket-size computer with artificial intelligence.

The new device is called a neuron MOS [expansion unknown] transistor, which researchers say can process more than one signal at a time, much like neurons in the human brain.

The device could be used to make a so-called "neural computer," a next-generation computer that would work like an artificial brain, and capable of doing tasks like freely translating languages, the researchers said.

The new transistor also would make it easier to manufacture large-scale integrated circuits that would reduce the number of transistors needed for a semiconductor chip to less than one-tenth the number needed conventionally, said research team leader Prof. Tadahiro Omi.

Omi said his group found that a chip used to convert digital signals into analog ones requires as much as 398 conventional transistors, but using the new technology, the same chip could be produced with only 28 transistors.

"The final goal of electronics is to develop a computer of artificial intelligence that can be carried in your pocket. I believe this new transistor is a first step toward achieving that goal," Omi said.

Details of the new transistor will be announced at an international conference on electronic devices to be held in Washington starting next Monday.

North Korea

U.S. Urged To Confirm Nuclear Arms Withdrawals

SK0612015791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0027 GMT 6 Dec 91

[NODONG SINMUN 6 December commentary: "The United States Should Show an Affirmative Reaction"]

[Text] News reports that the United States has begun withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea are now in circulation, catching people's attention.

As a matter of course, we are paying attention to such reports. If we are to remove the nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula, its source must be eliminated and toward this end, it is imperative to withdraw the vast U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea before anything else.

This being the case, if the United States has really begun withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea, it is good. However, reports from sources other than the owner of the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea cannot be trusted.

The proprietor of the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea is none other than the United States. Therefore, it is the U.S. Government's job to withdraw them.

Since it was the U.S. President himself that announced a U.S. plan to withdraw tactical nuclear weapons from South Korea, we rated it affirmatively as something worth welcoming.

In response, we put forward a new, forward-looking proposal that when the United States begins withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea, we will sign the Nuclear Safeguards Accord.

This proposal, a very timely and realistic proposal in that it has clarified the fundamental ways of removing the nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula, has verified that we really are making earnest efforts to address the question.

So, no sooner had our proposal been announced than it began arousing affirmative reaction from the people of the world who value peace and justice.

This notwithstanding, the United States has not just failed to make clear its official stand on our proposal, but, as the one that is directly responsible, it also remained silent on the news report that the withdrawal of the nuclear weapons from South Korea had begun. This is hard to understand.

The United States should not have brought the nuclear weapons into South Korea in the first place. Now, since it deployed the nuclear weapons in South Korea, the United States should have, as a matter of course, responded to our demand that it withdraw its nuclear weapons and stop the nuclear threat against us when we made that call so that we could freely resolve the Nuclear Safeguards Accord issue.

In spite of this, to date, the United States has stubbornly persisted in its pretense that there were no nuclear weapons in South Korea and forced on us unilateral nuclear inspections, causing the delay in the settlement of the issue and making it complicated.

Now that it has admitted to the presence of nuclear weapons in South Korea and the need to withdraw them, the sooner the nuclear weapons are withdrawn, the better.

This means that we could sign the Nuclear Safeguards Accord that much sooner.

We are not fond of speaking empty words. When the news reports that the United States has begun withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea are confirmed, we will sign the Nuclear Safeguards Accord as we publicly promised early on.

The United States should show an affirmative reaction to our proposal at an early date.

The ball is already in the U.S. court.

Soviet Official Views Korean Reunification

SK0412003991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2212 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Moscow December 2 (KCNA)—Mikhail Kapitsa, director of the Institute of the Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, referred to the question of Korea's reunification when he was interviewed with the Japanese NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN some time ago.

Answering the question raised by the reporter regarding the U.S. state secretary's plan for "two plus four" talks on the question of the Korean peninsula, he said:

I think this plan stemmed from misunderstanding the situation of the Korean peninsula. The question of the Korean peninsula is different from the reunification of Germany in too many points and it is impossible to apply such method.

Japan Said on 'Road of Military Aggrandizement'

SK0612102491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0954 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—The House of Representatives of Japan passed a "U.N. peace-keeping cooperation bill," a law on the dispatch of the "Self-Defence Forces" overseas, for the first time since the Second World War.

This vividly shows how hard Japan is trying to establish the status of a military power and pave the road of military aggrandizement, MINJU CHOSON says today in a by-lined article, and goes on:

It cannot be concealed that Japan is intending to become a military power and pave the road of military aggrandizement by using the international signboard of the United Nations.

Japan's attempts to become a military power commensurate to the economic power are all the more pronounced at the moment when the international balance of forces has collapsed.

Japan is rapidly pushing ahead with unlimited armament expansion and arms buildup in a bid to attain this aim.

Japan is one of the countries leading the world in terms of the speed of growth of military spendings.

Dreaming of a military power, she even raised a hue and cry over the fictitious "nuclear threat" from someone in an effort to find a pretext for equipping herself with nuclear arms.

The moves in Japan which are contrary to the trend of the times toward detente and disarmament are one more factor that heightens the tensions and increases the danger of war in Asia.

The Korean and other Asian peoples are now sharply watching the insolent militarist acts of Japan with vigilance.

It is an anachronistic behaviour for Japan to deviate from her peace constitution, treading in her own steps of the past.

Japan must be aware that advancing toward a military power and military aggrandizement is the road to new disaster and destruction.

PRC Vice Premier Meets Power Industry Group

SK0612031391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] On 3 December in Beijing, Zhu Rongji, vice premier of the Chinese State Council, met with the DPRK delegation led by Yi Chung-song, vice chairman of the Power Industry Committee. The delegation attended the 44th council of the DPRK-Chinese hydroelectric power company held in China.

At the meeting, talks were held in a friendly atmosphere. Lu Youmei, vice minister of the Ministry of Energy and Resources and Chinese chief director of the DPRK-Chinese hydroelectric power company, and Chu Chang-chun, our country's ambassador to China, were present.

Reception Given for Outgoing PRC MAC Member

SK0512105391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 5 (KCNA)—Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member of our side to the Military Armistice Commission (MAC), gave a reception in Kaesong on December 4 for the outgoing chief staff officer of the delegation of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] of the Korea-China side to the MAC.

Invited there were chief staff officer Zhao Sian and members of the CPV delegation of the Korea-China side to the MAC.

The members of our side to the MAC were present.

Speeches were exchanged there.

Yon Hyong-muk Congratulates Lao National Day

SK0612041891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the State Administration Council, sent a congratulatory message to Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The message offered warm congratulations on the 16th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The message also expressed the firm belief that the traditional friendly and cooperative relations which the two countries have promoted in the joint struggle against imperialism and for independence will be further strengthened and developed.

The message also wished him greater success in his responsible work to accomplish the resolutions adopted at the fifth party congress and to bring prosperity to the country.

Trade, Payment Agreement Signed With Vietnam

SK0612112391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—An agreement on trade and payment between the governments of the DPRK and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was signed here today.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were Kang Chong-mo, vice-minister of foreign trade, and other officials concerned, and on the opposite side were the members of the Vietnamese Government trade delegation led by Le Kim Lang, vice- minister of commerce and tourism, and Nguyen Van Trong, Vietnamese ambassador to Korea.

Premier Greets Thai Premier on National Day

SK0612144191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the State Administration Council, sent a congratulatory message to Anan Panyarachun, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

The message extends wholehearted congratulations on the Kingdom of Thailand's national holiday. It also expresses a firm belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will be further strengthened and developed in accordance with the two countries' desires and interests and wishes Anan Panyarachun and the Thai people prosperity and happiness.

Castro Praises Kim Il-song 'Revolutionary Feats'

SK0612040391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1458 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Excerpt] Pyongyang December 5 (KCNA)—Foreign party and state leaders and public circles highly praised the imperishable and revolutionary feats performed by the great leader President Kim Il-song for the times and history.

Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, said Comrade Kim Il-song is, indeed, a great man. His august name is well known to the world for his feats and contributions, and he is respected and revered by all, he added. [passage omitted]

Kim Il-song Receives Peace Federation Leader

SK0612081491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0700 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has received the president of the World Peace Federation.

Today, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received U.S. resident Korean Mun Sun-myung, president of the World Peace Federation, who has come to visit his hometown, and his entourage.

Present on this occasion were Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Korean Committee for Aiding Overseas Compatriots, and Kim Tal-hyon, vice premier of the Administration Council.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song had a warm conversation filled with compatriotic feelings with President Mun Sun-myung. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song arranged a luncheon for President Mun Sun-myung and his entourage.

Daily Stresses Strategic, Tactical Leadership

SK0612023991 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0007 GMT 1 Dec 91

[NODONG SINMUN 1 December "special article": "Strategic and Tactical Leadership for the Socialist Cause Is the Party's Mission"]

[Text] In the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's immortal work, "The Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Is the Organizer and Leader of All the Victories of Our People," he profoundly elucidated that strategic and tactical leadership for the socialist cause is the party's mission.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has taught: Among all organizations and groups in a socialist society including the state and the regime, the only organization that emerges with the policy- oriented, strategic, and tactical leadership for the society and the revolution as its mission, and has the capability to realize it, is the working-class party.

If socialism is to be built successfully, many difficult and complicated tasks such as strengthening the people's regime; indoctrinating and remolding the people; developing the economy and culture; and improving social relations must be implemented. All of these tasks which are put forth in fulfilling the socialist cause can be successfully realized only through the correct strategic and tactical struggle.

The strategic and tactical leadership for the socialist cause accurately elucidates the future of the revolution and construction. This can be fulfilled only through the working-class party which awakens the masses to implement this.

Various forms of political organizations and groups in the society are involved in accelerating the revolution and construction and developing society. What is definitely significant among the political organizations and groups is the party. This is because the party emerges with the policy-oriented, strategic, and tactical leadership for the society and revolution as its mission, and is the single political organization with leadership function in realizing it.

The working-class party is a political organization with a leadership function in which it emerges with the policy-oriented, strategic, and tactical leadership for the society and revolution as its mission.

The revolution is a struggle to realize the popular masses' sovereignty, and the fundamental method in fulfilling the revolution lies in actively organizing and mobilizing the popular masses who are the main force of the revolution to the revolutionary struggle through raising their consciousness and getting them organized.

As the vanguard unit of the revolution, the party elucidates the future road of the revolutionary struggle and unites the broad popular masses by raising their consciousness and getting them organized. Also, the party has emerged and developed from the demand of organizing and mobilizing them to the revolutionary struggle. From the first day it declared its birth as a political organization with leadership function, the party regarded and struggled for the strategic and tactical leadership of the society as its lofty mission.

In this process, the party further vividly displayed its appearance as the planning staff of the revolution which organizes and leads the struggle in realizing the popular masses' sovereignty and as the leading force of society.

The working-class party is a political organization with leadership functions which possesses the capability to realize the strategic and tactical leadership of the society and the revolution. In the working-class organization there are various political organizations including the party, the governing organ, and mass organizations. These organizations were organized and developed from the demand of the revolutionary struggle to indoctrinate the masses and to organize and mobilize them.

Nevertheless, only under the united leadership of the party can these organizations carry out the work to indoctrinate and mobilize the masses. It also plays the role of a transmission belt which links the party and the masses.

Under the leadership of the leader, the party becomes the supreme form of organization which grasps and leads in a united way all other organizations of the working class. Also, it is a leader of the revolution who can realize the policy-oriented, strategic, and tactical leadership of the society and revolution.

Based on the leader's revolutionary ideology which summed up the popular masses' sovereign demand and interest, the party put forth the most correct struggle line and strategy and tactic, and is organizing and mobilizing the popular masses in leading them to thoroughly fulfill this.

The party is a unique political organization with a leadership function which has an orderly organizational structure and leadership system in realizing the strategic and tactical leadership for the society and revolution.

If the party is to correctly realize the united leadership and strategic and tactical leadership for the society and revolution, there must be an orderly organizational structure and leadership system.

As all organs of the body and the system must be smoothly activated according to the unified order of the supreme brain to guarantee the life of the organic body, if the strategic and tactical leadership of society and the revolution is to be realized correctly by the party, there must be an organizational structure and leadership system that can actively achieve this.

In our party a strong organizational structure and leadership system is established so that the strategic and tactical leadership for the whole party and society can be realized.

In all regional units and production units, the party organizations are organized rationally to embody the party center's ideology and intention. All the party members are wholly included in the grass-roots party organization to carry out a political organizational life. People in the lower echelons of the party organizations obey the upper party organizations, and the whole party obeys the single guidance of the party Central Committee. Thus, an orderly organizational structure and leadership system are established.

This makes the whole party move as one under the leadership of the party, and becomes a firm guarantee in making it possible to most successfully realize the party's strategic and tactical leadership for the society and the revolution.

Today in our country the socialist cause is being vigorously advanced along the one road of victory without any deviation or complication. This is because as a refined planning staff of the Korean revolution, our party is most successfully realizing the strategic and tactical leadership for the socialist cause.

In every period and each stage of the revolution and construction, our party most of all draws up and presents a chuche- type line and policy which is in accordance with our people's intention and the reality of the nation, thus leading the socialist cause to victory.

Drawing up and presenting the correct line and policy are prerequisites in realizing the strategic and tactical leadership for the society and the revolution, and a guarantee for all victories.

The revolution and construction are carried out with the party's line and policy as its guiding principle, and the victorious advance in the socialist cause is dependent upon how revolutionary and scientific the line and policy are.

Our party adheres to the principle of drawing up and presenting all lines and policies in accordance with our people's intention and the reality of the nation. Formulating all of one's lines and policies by oneself according to the people's intention and the reality of the nation is a fundamental demand for ensuring that they are accurate and scientific.

By having a correct understanding of the specific reality and intention of the popular masses of one's nation, there cannot be any kind of trivial deviation if the party of each nation establishes the line and policy according to the faith of the popular masses.

In drawing up and fulfilling the line and policy, our party takes into consideration our reality, the intention of the popular masses, and the demand of our revolutionary development as the absolute yardstick. Since this reflects the intention of the popular masses and the specific reality of our revolution, our party's line and policy is always correct and practical. Also, our party's strategic and tactical leadership for the socialist cause make it possible to become the most revolutionary and scientific leadership.

From the early days our party put forth the line of occupying the communist ideological and material fortress which is in accordance with our nation's reality, our people's intention and interest, and the inevitable demand of the developing revolution, and vigorously launched the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural. This is a clear manifestation that our party is brilliantly realizing this line.

Based on the chuche idea, our party's unique socialist construction lines clearly elucidate all problems that are put forth in socialist construction such as the problem of the intrinsic characteristic of socialism, its superiority, and the direction and method for implementing the socialist construction. Because of this, our party's unique socialist construction lines and policies become the single guiding principle which makes it possible to most correctly realize the party's strategic and tactical leadership for the socialist cause.

Our party also puts forth a correct struggle goal and task which coincides with the objective inevitability of the developing revolution and puts forth the correct struggle form and method to successfully take the lead in achieving the socialist cause.

In every period and each stage of the socialist construction, based on accurately analyzing the demand of the developing revolution and its inevitability, our party correctly puts forth the pivotal task among the complicated tens of thousands of tasks and is making it possible to concentrate all strength in realizing it.

In defining the types and methods of the struggle, while taking into consideration the objective conditions of the revolution, our party attaches fundamental significance to the subjective conditions, how the masses' consciousness is raised, and how they are organized. Along with this, in the problem of forming the revolutionary force, all classes and strata which have revolutionary interests are rallied together. All of this clearly shows that our party is most successfully realizing the strategic and tactical leadership of the socialist cause.

By organizing and mobilizing all the people, our party is thoroughly fulfilling the chuche-oriented socialist construction lines and policies. By doing so, our party is advancing our socialist cause to the most sure road.

In our socialist cause which regards the chuche ideology as its guiding principle, the popular masses themselves become the masters and through their revolutionary fervor and creative positiveness, the cause is further advanced. The strong driving force of the socialist construction most of all lies in our people's political and ideological strength, and their voluntary enthusiasm and creative positiveness.

The collective strength and mass heroism of the popular masses who lead the socialist cause unite the individual and collective interests and strengthen the might of unity and cooperation. This is highly manifested through the party's leadership.

Our party had deep insight into the importance of mobilizing and organizing the masses in realizing the strategic and tactical leadership for the socialist cause. It also created the Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method which is a scientific and revolutionary method to guide the masses, and in all works priority was given to the work with the people and the political work, thus greatly manifesting the popular masses' revolutionary fervor and creative positiveness. This kind of leadership by our party closely united the party and the masses; all the people accepted our party's socialist construction line and policy as the most fair line and policy; and manifested everlasting devotion and creative positiveness in realizing it.

In our country, the socialist construction lines and policies are being thoroughly implemented, and endless miracles and innovations are being created in all sectors due to all the people's collective strength and mass heroism. The source of this lies in our party's leadership which actively organizes and mobilizes the broad masses to fulfill the socialist cause.

Our party's strategic and tactical leadership for the socialist cause is the source of infinite strength which advances our people's revolutionary struggle and construction work to the most sure road, and makes it possible to create miracles and bring about changes at which the people of this land marvel.

In the process of advancing the socialist cause according to the party's leadership, our people deeply experienced in their hearts that our party's line and policy is the most correct guideline in socialist construction; that according to our party's leadership to embody and realize this, the most superior socialist system centered around the popular masses is being established on this land; and that this is being endlessly consolidated and developed.

Through the experiences of everyday life, our people were able to faithfully bear in mind that our party's leadership is the lifeline in the victorious advance for the socialist cause, and that the socialist cause can be completed to the end only when the party's leadership is highly upheld.

Our people's faith and will to highly uphold our party's strategic and tactical leadership which is the planning staff of our revolution and the refined leader of the socialist cause, and to unhesitantly develop and complete the chuche revolutionary cause toward the one road of victory, is immutable.

Party Members Urged To Lead in 'Socialist March'

SK0512061191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0011 GMT 2 Dec 91

[NODONG SINMUN 2 December editorial: "Party Members Should Glorify the Honor of Vanguard Fighters in the Great Socialist March"]

[Text] Today we are faced with a glorious task to vigorously accelerate the new march of socialist construction by upholding the party's intent and ideas.

What is important in successfully accomplishing this task is for all party members to endlessly glorify the honor of vanguard fighters at the forefront of the great socialist march.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: Our party members are the vanguard fighters who should accomplish the chuche revolutionary cause—the socialist and communist cause—in Korea by bearing the responsibility.

It is an honorable mission for our party members—the vanguard fighters of the revolution—to create miracles and effect innovations at the forefront of the great socialist march by upholding the party's intent and ideas.

Party members are voluntary and tenacious revolutionaries who have been fostered in our party's bosom and who have a firm determination and faith to dedicate everything to the party and to the revolution.

The precious title of party member reflects our party's great trust and is brilliant with the loftiest political life. The way for our party members to fulfill their missions as assigned by the party and the revolution and to glorify their precious political life is to brilliantly realize the party's intent and ideas and accomplish the party's policy to the end by organizing and mobilizing the masses.

Proceeding from the demand for the development of the revolution and from the demand of the prevailing situation, our party wants all party members to again rise revolutionarily and effect a great upsurge in socialist construction.

Our party members should continuously echo hurrahs for victory in socialist construction by upholding the party's appeal. Thus, they should fully display our people's heroic spirit and our party's might.

The party's trust in and expectations for our party members are indeed great. When our party members rise revolutionarily in all domains and all outposts in socialist construction, all people will also rise and the spirit of constant innovations will overflow throughout the entire nation.

All party members should fulfill their missions and roles as the vanguard standard-bearers and as vanguard fighters in compliance with the practical demand of today when a new majestic march of socialist construction is being waged. Thus, they should repay the party's lofty trust and expectations with loyalty.

All party members should, above all, cherish lofty pride in, and political consciousness of, being members of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK], the chuche-type revolutionary party.

Our party is a refined staff office of the Korean revolution and is the organizer and guide of all victories of our people. It is a matchless honor and pride of our party members that they have become members of the great WPK which is vigorously leading the times and the revolution.

When all party members have a keen political consciousness of the lofty honor they themselves have, they can always display the sense of peerless dedication and heroic spirit in the struggle to realize the party's intent and ideas. Thus, they can create constant miracles and effect innovations at the forefront of the masses.

The inspiring reality of today when a great new march is being made in socialist construction under the party's leadership demands that all party members should cherish loftier political consciousness and a fiercer determination than ever before.

All party members should cherish a lofty consciousness of the fact that the works they are carrying out are the rewarding works designed to brilliantly realize the party's cause and to give great joy and satisfaction to the great leader by effecting a greater advance in socialist construction and in the struggle to promote the people's living standard.

Party members should also keep creating miracles and renovations through their practical struggle at the difficult guard posts of socialist construction.

A party member's honor shines only when he fulfills his revolutionary duty under all circumstances. Party members who do not hesitate to go through water and fire, to respond to the party's summons and take the lead in solving difficult and laborious problems and produce breakthroughs can be said to be true revolutionaries.

How our party members fulfill the revolutionary duty assigned to them is associated with the strength of their resolve to live up to the party's trust and confidence.

The party's faith and confidence in party members is the precious honor that party members can earn only after making substantial contribution to work designed to render the nation prosperous and make the people happy by completely implementing the party's policies.

A party member's honor can become shiny not by empty words, but only by his active practical struggle aimed at implementing party policies and by the outcome of the struggle.

Party members should devote all their meditation and enthusiasm to living up to the party's faith and confidence with substantial successes in their work.

All party members should deeply understand the party's intention to create a great upsurge in socialist construction and keep renovating and keep marching forward under the slogan "What the party decides, we will do."

Party members standing guard in the leading sectors of the national economy should clearly remember that only when the mining and electric industries and railroad transportation are ahead of other sectors can all the other sectors increase and the national economy develop vigorously and create miracles and renovation daily by renovating technology and normalizing production at ever higher levels.

Party members involved in the construction of major projects should translate what they have sworn before the party into action without fail by taking pride and honor in participating in erecting the nation's long-range creations and by displaying a high degree of patriotic devotion and mass heroism.

Party members in the light industrial sector should keep the flames of the light industrial revolution burning fiercely with their single-minded determination to bring to full flower the fatherly leader's and the party's noble idea concerning the people's livelihood, thereby producing more consumer goods of far better quality, including cloth, and seeing to it that the people get them.

It is party members in the rural economic sector who should take the lead in vigorously accelerating the soil-leveling in rice paddies and in the struggle to grow another still greater bumper crop by substantially preparing for next season's farming in conformity with the chuche-oriented farming method.

For party members to become vanguard fighters in the great socialist march, it is also imperative for them to become educators and organizers responsible for stirring up the masses to create miracles and feats.

How vigorously can they accelerate today's great, enormous socialist march depends in large part on how party members manipulate the strength and resourcefulness of the broad masses. Therefore, to stir up and mobilize the whole population in a manner of one making ten move; ten making a hundred move; and a hundred making a thousand move is an important key to achieving victory and successes in the revolutionary struggle.

By being deeply aware of their own position and mission as the vanguard revolutionary fighters, all the party members, while staying in the midst of the masses and doing the same work, should intensify the indoctrination work designed to make the masses cherish their loyalty to the party and actively encourage and propel them to profit-making by setting examples in taking it upon themselves to do the difficult jobs before anybody else.

In order to make party members perform feats in today's rewarding march, it is imperative for the guidance functionaries to do a good job of working with them. All the guidance functionaries should always march in the forefront of party members and masses waving the banner with a high degree of their revolution-mindedness, party spirit, and people-mindedness.

Party functionaries should actively give play to the ideology and zeal of the multitude of party members by substantially carrying out the work with people, the political work; the economic guidance functionaries should make all the party members effect a great upsurge in production by preplanning and supervising the economic guidance and enterprise management through skillfully commanding production in conformity with the demand of the Taean Work System.

To make party members do their best in their role of vanguard unit, it is important to have the party organizations make a good job of political and ideological work.

The party organizations at all levels should go deep among the party members and become active in their midst, while substantially carrying out various kinds of work designed to stir them up by various methods.

The party organizations should concentrate great effort on making the party members understand well our party's greatness and the wisdom of its leadership as well as the lofty will contained in the party's call to a new, great march, while at the same time strengthening the organizational and ideological life of each individual party member and making them test their party spirit without interruption.

Equally important for them is to assign each party member a concrete duty, propel them so as to make them implement their duty well, and make all the party members remain loyal and dutiful to the party and the leader with a high degree of practical successes by summing up and evaluating the progress they have made in their duty in a timely manner.

KCNA Reviews 6 Dec Pyongyang Press

SK0612054091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry messages of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Hafiz al-Asad upon his reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic and to Finnish President Mauno Koivisto on the occasion of the 74th anniversary of the independence of Finland.

NODONG SINMUN says that the great leader President Kim Il-song wisely led the Korean people's revolutionary army ranks with firm faith in victory of the revolution and strong will during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Carried in papers is a poem written by the cultural advisor to the Syrian Presidential Office, praising the greatness of President Kim Il-song and his imperishable feats.

An article of MINJU CHOSON says the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il wisely led the construction of an excellent ice rink on the bank of the River Potong in Pyongyang.

Echoed in NODONG SINMUN are voices of leading party officials of African countries ardently revering President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Papers inform the readers that Secretary Kim Yong-sun of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] left Pyongyang for a visit to Cuba as a special envoy of President Kim Il-song.

Printed in NODONG SINMUN is a message of greetings sent by the WPK Central Committee to the first convention of the South-West Africa People's Organisation.

The daily editorially calls for bringing the advantages of our socialist economic system into fuller play by thoroughly implementing the Taean work system.

Econews of the press includes reports about innovations being effected in the production of mining equipment and about brisk endeavours to complete the irrigation of dry fields on a high level.

Papers observe day of the chemical industry.

Papers carry a joint statement of Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Korean Committee for Aiding Overseas Compatriots, and Mun Sun-myung, president of the World Peace Federation, published in Pyongyang on December 5.

Papers inform the readers that President Mun Sun-myung of the World Peace Federation called at his hometown.

It is reported in papers that the DPRK ambassador to Mauritius presented his credentials to the Mauritian governor-general and a decision of the 44th meeting of the board of directors of the Korea-China hydro-electric power company was signed in Beijing.

Given in the press is an account of a contact held between the chief liaison officials of the sides for the 5th inter-Korean high- level talks.

Included in South Korean news of NODONG SINMUN is a report that peasants held a rally and demonstration against the authorities' rice market opening.

The daily comes out with an article denouncing the signing of the "wartime support agreement" by the United States and the South Korean authorities as a pro-American flunkeyist treachery of the contemporary version overshadowing the "traitors of 1905".

Edited in papers are world voices demanding the withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea and denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary demanding the United States to withdraw its nuclear weapons and troops from South Korea, and MINJU CHOSON a commentary condemning the passage of a bill on dispatching the "Self-Defence Forces" overseas at the House of Representatives of Japan.

The vice-president of the U.S. Centre for Strategic and International Studies and others exposed that former U.S. President Truman unleashed the Korean war in 1950, according to NODONG SINMUN.

International news of NODONG SINMUN includes reports that young cadres are being trained in China and the 35th anniversary of the landing of the ship Granma and the founding of Revolutionary Armed Forces was celebrated in Cuba and a Cuban paper published an editorial on this occasion.

Papers report that the national day was observed in Laos, the Afghan president stressed that the Afghan issue should be solved without foreign interference, the Indonesian president spoke about the food security problem, the king of Jordan outlined his country's foreign policy, Butrus Ghali, deputy prime minister of Egypt, was elected secretary-general of the United Nations and a special meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council was held.

Papers observe the 74th anniversary of the independence of Finland.

An article of NODONG SINMUN hits out at the absolute baloney of the imperialists and their vindicators meant to beautify the capitalist exploitation.

South Korea

South To Stress Nuclear Issue at N-S Meeting

SK0612031591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea will urge North Korea to halt its development of nuclear weapons and accept international inspections of its nuclear facilities when their prime ministers meet in Seoul next week.

Prime Minister Chong Won-sik chaired a meeting Thursday of Seoul's delegation to the fifth inter-Korean high-level talks, which begin Dec. 10, and decided that the South would declare its opposition to the North's proposal that nuclear installations in the two Koreas be inspected simultaneouly.

A senior government official, who wanted to remain anonymous, said after the meeting that since the North's nuclear development program was raising tensions in Northeast Asia, the South Korean delegation would strongly ask the North to stop trying to develop an atomic bomb and open its nuclear complex to outside inspections.

He said the South would maintain its basic position on major issues such as replacement of the Korean armistice with a peace formula, establishment of permanent liaison offices in each other's capital and opening the mass media.

If North Korea became more flexible on these issues, however, the South would put forward new proposals reflecting the North's ideas. For example, he said, the South had agreed to set up a liaison office in the truce village of Panmunjom as the North had proposed.

Soviet Seizure of Fishing Boat Confirmed

SK0612090091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0453 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—The Fisheries Administration confirmed Friday that a South Korean fishing vessel was seized in waters off the Okhotsk Sea Nov. 29 on a charge of violating the Soviet economic sea zone.

It said the Foreign Ministry was trying to find out exactly where the Soviets seized the 3,527-ton Gaeyang Two and its 64 sailors.

The administration said it had asked the Soviet Government to immediately return the seamen and vessel in accordance with the Seoul-Moscow fishery agreement signed in September if Gaeyang Heungsan Co. put up a payment guarantee of 315,000 U.S. dollars asked for by the Soviets.

USSR Hints at Willingness To Repay Loans

SK0512134491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1328 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 5 (YONHAP)—The Soviet Union has hinted that it would repay 3 billion dollars of loan South Korea gave in economic aid despite its recent decision to halt payments on the principal of its foreign debt until Jan. 1, 1993, a South Korean government official said thursday.

Yi Hwan-kyun, assistant finance minister for planning and management, said that the Soviet Union has notified that it would halt payments of loans signed before Jan. 1, 1991, and this means the loans Korea provided from May this year are not subject to the decision.

Korea has provided 1 billion U.S. dollars in cash and 800 million dollars in tied loan to fund imports of Korean commodities since May, according to Yi.

The Soviet Bank for Foreign Economic Trade sent a telex Wednesday to the Korea Development Bank's local incorporation in London saying payments on the principal would stop for one year for loans signed before Jan.

1, 1991, under a debt-relief package offered by the Group of Seven industrial nations, he said.

This is an indirect suggestion that the Soviet Union has willingness to pay loans offered by Korea, he said.

Yi said he confirmed that the Soviet Union has repeatedly guaranteed its payment of foreign debts during an unofficial contact in Korea recently.

The assistant minister said Ruslan Khasvulatov, chairman of the Russian Parliament, is expected to reveal the Russian Republic's position on the payment of the loans when he visits Korea next week.

The payment by the Soviet Union of loans provided by Korea is not very pessimistic, he said, although the situation is still fluid.

He said, however, that whether to continue to release the pledged loans to the Soviet Union should be decided after the situation is fully reviewed.

Direct Shipments to USSR Up Despite Concerns

SK0512073591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0638 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 5 (YONHAP)—Despite rising concern over Moscow's insolvency, direct shipments between South Korea and the Soviet Union have grown, Trans-Orient Shipping Co. said Thursday.

The fill-up rate soared to 81 percent for Saturday's sailing to Vostochniy from 40 percent before shipments on tied loans began last month, according to the agent for the direct Korea-Soviet shipping line.

Korea-Soviet Shipping Co.'s "Trade Luck" will load 170 20-foot equivalent units [TEU] Dec. 7, a Trans-Orient official said. The "Trade Luck" and the "Kapitan Gnedzilov," which is owned by Far East Shipping Co. of the Soviet Union, carried 150 TEUs each last week and this week, respectively. There are two regular voyages from Pusan to Vostochniy each week.

"We expect no decrease in trade volume at least by the end of the year, despite the unstable situation in the Soviet Union," the official said.

Government To Levy High Duties on Chinese Goods

SK0612032991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0211 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—A government committee has decided to levy high duties on 15 industrial and agricultural products from China to save Korean industry, sources on the Tariff Deliberation Committee said Friday.

The Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry had asked the committee to impose adjustment tariffs on 11 agricultural goods from China and the committee had accepted nine items, they said.

The nine are bracken, starchy noodles, dried persimmon, mushrooms, acorns, dried bean paste, mackerel pike, globefish and canned conches.

The committee also accepted the Trade and Industry Ministry's demand that tariffs be added on some industrial products. The ministry had asked for higher tariffs on 10 items but the committee will levy adjustment tariffs of 20 percent to 90 percent on six items—wooden fans, bamboo baskets, cotton gloves, artificial flowers, cotton towels and blinds.

The rates will be finalized by the Finance Ministry after the committee's draft is endorsed by the industrial policy deliberations council and the cabinet.

Imports of Chinese-made wooden fans shot up 236 percent from the same period last year to 2 million U.S. dollars during the first 10 months of this year, cotton gloves jumped 412 percent to 1.2 million dollars, and pyogo mushrooms grew 154 percent to 1 million dollars.

Import of dried persimmon surged 842 percent to 1.5 million dollars during January-October, acorns 277 percent to 1.7 million dollars, starchy noodles 214 percent to 1.28 million dollars, globefish 562 percent to 500,000 dollars, and canned conch 426 percent to 1.3 million dollars.

Since the two nations began trading in the late 1970's, two-way trade has expanded at a fast pace, recently lop-sidedly in favor of China.

Foreign Trade Policies Reexamined

SK0512151591 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 3 Dec 91 p 1

[Text] After reexamining its economic policies toward the Soviet Union, China, and other northern countries, the ROK Government has decided to give priority to substantial over superficial results.

The Economic Planning Board and the Korea Institute of Economic Policy had a meeting to examine economic cooperation with the northern countries. In the meeting, the Economic Planning Board asked the Korea Institute to map out measures to change the ROK's policy directions.

Authorities concerned said on 3 December: The ROK's trade volume with the northern countries was 5 percent of its total trade volume in 1991. This shows that the government has achieved superficial results. However, the ROK recorded a trade deficit of $1 billion with the northern countries this year due to China's differential duties on ROK commodities and due to sluggish exports. This shows that the ROK's advance into the northern countries has not contributed to invigorating its economy. As a result, the government has decided to change its policy.

In particular, the economic cooperation funds of $3 billion have actually started to be expended for the Soviet Union. The rumors have spread that the Soviet

Union's external settlement bank has stopped repaying foreign debts. Furthermore, the Soviet Union's disintegration has been accelerated, as shown by the Ukrainian Republic's declaration of independence. Therefore, it has become unclear whether the Soviet Union will repay its foreign debts.

Also, the Soviet Union has been very passive in convening a working-level meeting with the ROK to discuss fishing quotas and other matters as stipulated in the ROK-Soviet fisheries agreement, which is considered the ROK's most advantageous sector in its economic cooperation package with the USSR.

China has delayed the signing of a trade agreement, an investment guarantee agreement, and an economic agreement with the ROK. It has promised that it would sign them before the end of this year. It also has not canceled its differential duties of 5-30 percent. This has weakened the competitiveness of the ROK's commodities exported to China.

Also, China has become the ROK's strongest competitor in textiles, light industrial goods, and toy markets in the United States and Southeast Asian countries. Therefore, it is pointed out, the ROK must adopt the policy of considering China its competitor, not as a country that it must assist.

Because its northern policy has faced a setback in this way, the government has decided not to extend economic cooperation funds to the Soviet Union and the East European countries any more. It also has decided to approve the construction of an industrial complex for ROK companies in Tianjin (500,000 pyong [one pyong equals three square meters]) until after a clear-cut decision has been made with China on signing the investment guarantee agreement and the trade agreement.

The government also has decided to make efforts to find ways to improve relations with Vietnam because of its excellent skilled workers and because its environment for investment is favorable.

Koreans Bring Suit Against Japanese Government

SK0612034191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0235 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—A group of South Koreans, claiming that they were the victims of Japan's "crime against humanity" during the World War II, brought a suit Friday, demanding that the Japanese Government pay compensations for them.

In the suit filed at the Tokyo District Court, the 35 member group, called "the Association of the Bereaved Families of the Pacific War," said they are the victims themselves or relatives of the victims who had been forcibly recruited as soldiers, civilian employees of the Japanese Imperial Army or the so-called "comfort ladies" for the Japanese soldiers.

Saying that they had suffered mental and physical trauma because of Japan's inhuman and brutal treatments, they demand that the Japanese Government pay 20 million yen to each of them or a total of 700 million yen (4 billion won).

The group includes Mrs. Kim Hak-chun, 67, and two other women who had been abused as the comfort ladies by the Japanese, 13 former Japanese Army soldiers and employees and three widows.

They said if they win, their case will open the way for other victims of the Pacific war. The association, led by chairman Kim Chong-tae, has more than 15,000 members. It plans to raise the second and third suits.

The case draws an extraordinary attention from the general Japanese public because the suit was brought by Korean women who had been the victims of the sexual brutality of Japanese soldiers for the first time.

In the 130-page suit, the group contradicted the past Japanese allegation that the "Korean comfort ladies" had been recruited by Japanese civilians. In fact, it was the Japanese Government and military that had carried out the entire program.

"The mental and physical pain inflicted on the Korean women who had been brought up with a strong sense of virtue in a Confucian society is immeasurable and still continuing for the unfortunate women," the suit said, adding:

"The forced recruitment of the comfort women is one of the typical crimes against humanity."

Referring to the Japanese claim that it has already paid compensations to South Korea when it signed the South Korea-Japan Basic Treaty in 1965, the suit said the compensations paid between the two governments are two different matters.

The signing of the South Korean-Japan Basic Treaty does not mean that the Japanese Government could avoid its responsibility for its actions against individual victims, Kenichi Takagi, one of the Korean-Japanese lawyers for the plaintiffs in the case.

The exact number of Koreans forcibly recruited by the Japanese as soldiers, civilian employees and laborers is not known as Japanese Government refuses to make all its wartime documents available to the public.

According to partially disclosed documents, at least 1,128,032 Koreans were taken as forced laborers, 209,279 as soldiers, 154,970 as Army civilian employees and an estimated 200,000 as comfort women.

Japan Denies Charges

SK0612085091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0802 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—Japan denied Friday that its government was involved in forcing hundreds of

Korean girls to become prostitutes for its soldiers during World War II, and suggested they were not entitled to compensation.

"An investigation is going on with the Labor Ministry at the center, but we haven't yet found material proving government involvement," chief cabinet secretary Koichi Kato told a news conference.

A compensation suit was filed in Tokyo District Court by 35 members of "the Association of Bereaved Families of Pacific War Victims" earlier in the day.

In their suit, the women claim that they suffered mental and physical trauma because of Japan's "crime against humanity" and demand that the government pay them 20 million yen each, or a total of 700 million yen (4 billion won).

"It is difficult for the government to deal with it," Kato said, hinting that it was unwilling to pay the women any compensation.

Kato's remarks contradict the testimony of Seiji Yoshida, 78, a resident of Abiko City in Chiba Prefecture, who told a news conference Friday he had "slave-hunted" more than 1,000 Korean women and forced them into prostitution on "military orders."

Yoshida said he had rounded up more than 5,000 men and 1,000 women in Korea from 1942 to 1945, and had sent the men to mines in Japan as slave labor and the women to the front lines in Southeast Asia to provide "comfort" for Japanese soldiers.

The orders came from the Army's West Command and he and other officials had to gather at least 50 women within a week, turning many Korean villages into a hell of crying babies torn from their mother's breasts, Yoshida said.

"There was no room for any private agent to intervene, as all those women were sent to the south on military transports," he said.

"The Japanese Government secretly burnt all its official documents on the forced drafting of Koreans after the war, and that's why no papers on the comfort girls are found. However, I know those ladies were questioned by the allied forces later and that the records of their interrogations are stored in official archives in the United States and Britain. I wonder how the Japanese Government will reply when those documents are made public," he said.

The plaintiffs in the suit include Kim Hak-chun, 67, and two other women who served as comfort ladies.

More suits would be filed against the Japanese Government, a spokesman for the association said. The group has over 15,000 members, all of whom experienced Japanese atrocities themselves or are bereaved relatives of victims.

Japan is estimated to have mobilized more than 1.7 million Koreans as slave labor, soldiers or comfort ladies during the war.

Inter-Korean Transactions To Be Made Public

SK3011013191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0031 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—The government will make public all transactions between South and North Korean companies from now on and will work out measures to treat inter-Korean exchanges as internal trade, a National Unification Board official said Saturday.

South Korean traders were changing their attitude on dealing with North Korea toward openness, he said.

"The traders shunned making their business with North Korea public in the past, but now are announcing it after they sign contracts. The fact that two-way trade has exceeded 100 million U.S. dollars means that North Korea is recognizing the need for inter-Korean deals," the official said.

The board approved Lucky-Goldstar International's plan for a 4 million-dollar barter deal with North Korea's Yongnam Chemical Joint Co. Friday.

Lucky-Goldstar is to export 5,000 color television sets, 5,000 tons of sugar, 700 rolls of film and other goods in return for 10,000 tons of North Korean coal.

Poll Shows Business Concerns Over N-S Trade

SK0612085891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0501 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—The government, to promote inter-Korean exchange of materials, should actively support contacts between South and North Korean businessmen and allow them to do business without having to get approval first, the Korea Foreign Trade Association [KFTA] said Thursday.

KFTA, in an analysis of a survey of 120 companies that have started trading with North Korea or are planning to, suggested that the government replace the system of prior approval with post-deal reporting.

As 60.8 percent of the companies polled said they were suffering from a shortage of information about the economic situation in North Korea, the government must give them more information, it said.

Another problem was government strictness concerning contacts with North Koreans, particularly visits to the North, KFTA said.

It said 12 percent of the firms had experienced difficulties caused by the government's stern policy on contacts with North Koreans.

A total of 107 firms received government permission to do business with North Korea during the first 10 months of this year.

Seventeen were big enterprises whose volume of trade, approved by the government, amounted to 56 million dollars, while the remaining 90 got permits for trade of 92 million dollars.

Most of the firms said they were doing business with North Korea "to pave the way for future advancement" and "to enhance the public impression" of their companies, rather than for profit.

Asked to compare the quality of North Korean goods with their southern counterparts, they gave high marks to peanuts and steel from the North. They said anthracite, steel products and electrolytic copper were just compatible, but frozen Alaskan pollack, potatoes, cement and raw silk were of lower quality.

KFTA said efforts should be made to prevent foreign agents from taking too much commission, noting the rates usually run between 16 percent and 20 percent of the deal. Fifty-nine percent of the firms said they used Hong Kong agents for deals with North Korea, 27.3 percent used Chinese and 16.4 percent Japanese.

Forecasting that inter-Korean deals would expand further, especially after the launching of the Tumen River basin development project in the North, KFTA urged the government to utilize the truce village of Panmunjom for contacts between business people on both sides of the Korean peninsula.

Private economic organizations should be allowed to open negotiation windows with North Korea, and people at qualified firms should be permitted to freely contact and travel to North Korea, KFTA said.

It said the government should seek to turn the sources of imports of some materials and products to North Korea from other countries and ease restrictions on the kinds and quantity of imports from the North.

North Proposes Joint Production, Exhibit in South

SK0512153891 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 3 Dec 91 p 7

[Text] A plan has been carried out in earnest for North and South Korea to jointly produce pianos.

A plan also has been carried out to hold a government-level exhibition of North Korean commodities in Seoul next year.

According to pertinent business circles, the ROK Embassy in Japan, and the Korean Trade Promotion Corporation, a North Korean piano manufacturing company, Paco, asked Samik Musical Instrument Company, the ROK's largest piano manufacturing company, to devise ways to jointly manufacture pianos.

North Korea's Paco made this offer by way of Asho, a prestigious company under the Federation of Korean Traders and Industrialists in Japan of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, and Samik is positively examining this offer.

Paco manufactures 100 pianos a month, using piano parts from Asho, and exports them.

A Samik official said that North Korea had proposed paying for the piano parts from Samik with finished pianos or with mineral products and that Samik is prudently examining this offer.

In addition, a plan has been carried out to hold a North-South Korean government-level general exhibition of North Korean commodities in Seoul.

In carrying out the plan to jointly manufacture pianos, the ROK Government proposed to North Korea that an exhibition of North Korean suits, handicrafts, ginseng products, pianos, and machine parts be held in Seoul, and the North Korean side made a positive response.

In connection with this, the ROK Government is planning to propose to North Korea that in the first stage, the ROK import 500-1,000 pianos from North Korea and sell them locally; that in the second stage, it supply piano parts to North Korea; and that in the third stage, it establish a North-South Korean joint venture.

Korean Exhibition Hall (KOEX) was originally carrying out a plan to hold an exhibition of North Korean commodities at home. However, this exhibition has been repeatedly postponed because not much will be gained from such an exhibition and because there were conflicts of interests among local companies.

Hyundai Department Store, Shinsegae Department Store, and some other department stores have opened exhibitions of North Korean commodities.

Firms To Import Farm, Fish Products From North

SK2911042191 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 29 Nov 91 p 6

[Text] Korea's 15 trading companies, including Korea Trading Int'l Inc., are pushing for imports of $18.9 million worth of agro-fishery products from North Korea within the year, business sources said yesterday.

An estimated 4,000 tons of dried red pepper worth $8 million will be brought in from North Korea by four trading firms, including Jackeyhead Ltd. and Korea Trading Int'l Inc., to ease shortages.

Samsung Corp., Shinhan Int'l Ltd., and six other local trading companies will also import 16,500 tons of frozen Alaska pollack from the North at a cost of $8.66 million.

Other items to be bought from North Korea are 100 tons of frozen yellow corbina ($570,000 worth), 1,000 tons of ginger ($500,000).

As South Korea now suffers from a serious shortage of agro- fishery products, government authorities are likely to issue the green light to trading companies for the introduction of North Korean products, they said.

Borrowing of Foreign Funds To Be Restricted

SK0612022291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0059 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 6 (YONHAP)—The government plans to restrict banks and other financial institutions from borrowing foreign funds because of an expected large inflow of foreign money with the opening of the country's capital market next month.

Government officials said Friday they expect foreign funds totaling the equivalent of 1 trillion to 3 trillion won will flow into the country from Jan. 1, when the Korean stock market opens to foreign investors.

In order to prevent increases in money supplies or demand for an appreciation of the won currency, the government will adopt a set of flexible monetary measures including reductions in the amount of foreign bank loans and development funds, the officials said.

The officials said the government hopes to reduce by 1.5 billion to 3 billion U.S. dollars the amount of medium- and long-term foreign loans and other funds next year. They estimate that about 5 billion dollars will come into the country this year.

The government is also studying the possibility of restricting domestic business enterprises from raising capital by issuing convertible bonds and bonds with subscription warrant, the officials said.

Stock Market Falters; Government Criticized

SK0512130791 Seoul YONHAP in English 1227 GMT 5 Dec 91

[By Kim Tae-sik: "Seoul Bourse Staggers in Doldrums on Eve of its Opening"—YONHAP headline]

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 5 (YONHAP)—The Korean stock market has been retreating over the past three weeks, triggering jitters about a major crash on the eve of its opening to foreigners.

Investment sentiment has been depressed extremely amid continuing drain of money from the market and lingering rumors of bankruptcies.

The prices fell for the last 21 trading days and the Korea composite stock price shed 142.06 points or 18.6 percent from Aug. 6 when the index marked a yearly peak of 763.10.

Market analysts blame the aggravating economic conditions and chronic imbalance of supply and demand in the stock market for the crash of prices.

The clients' deposits at brokerage houses dropped to 1,192 billion won (1.58 billion U.S. dollars) as of Wednesday from 1,502 billion won on Nov. 9. The deposits shrank to 880 billion won on June 22 when the market index plummeted to the yearly low of 590.57 but rebounded to 2,729.6 billion won on Aug. 6.

The downward pressure orginates also from the massive deals on margin made in July when the market showed convincing signs of a robust rebound from a lengthy bout of correction. Many players purchased a great amount of stocks on credit offered by securities houses and now, as the expiry of the five-month grace period draws near, the players are rushing to sell their holdings.

Analysts say that the margin trading volume to be settled this month totals about 300 billion won in value.

The stock market stabilization fund and other institutional investors are in serious financial difficulty and have little margin to spare to intervene.

The analysts say that the government's recent tax probes on suspected irregular in-house stock transfers in some business conglomerates depressed the buying interest of the so-called "big hands" (big fund-managers), fanning desertion of funds from the market.

The refunding of 1.4 trillion won deposited with the Korea Exchange Bank for subscription to the bank's public stock offerings began Thursday. But the day's slide baffled earlier expectations that the money would flow into the stock market right away.

Some observers extend cautious optimism that the prices would rebound in the days to come but that it would be difficult to expect a robust rebound in view of the bleak financial situation in and out of the market.

If the prices rose, they would hardly surpass the 670- to 680- point level, they said.

Some analysts say that the market's setback was attributable partly to the lack of consistency in the government's financial policy.

The government has employed make-shift remedies whenever the market headed toward a crisis and those measures have brought adverse effects, they said.

The government measures were just to pour money into the market or get the institutional investors to buy stocks, they say. They stress the need for the government to devise measures to ensure stable supply and demand in the market.

Long-term prospects of the market are none too gloomy, they say, considering that the market will be open to foreigners next month. The Korean stock market is just undergoing correction and prices would recover when foreign funds flows into the market, they say.

The planned upward readjustment of foreign ownership of stocks from 10 percent to 15 percent would be conducive to attracting foreign investment, they say.

Ministry Requires Use of Low-Sulfur Oil

SK0412072191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0639 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—The Environment Ministry decided Wednesday to require the use of low-sulfur oil in Seoul and 20 nearby cities and counties from 1993 to reduce air pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, a ministry spokesman said.

The ministry was discussing details of its plan with the Energy and Resources Ministry and hoped to make the switch nationwide by 1995, according to a spokesman.

Oil companies will be required to sell bunker-c oil with less than 1 percent sulfur and gasoline with less than 0.2 percent from 1993 in Seoul and nearby cities and counties, and from 1995 nationwide.

Of the five oil refineries, only Kuktong has de-sulfurizing facilities but the others are building them, the spokesman said.

It will cost them an estimated 3 trillion won (4 billion U.S. dollars) to build heavy oil analyzing facilities or de-sulfurizing plants.

An Environment Ministry official said the refineries were not required to have de-sulfurizing plants by law. He said this step was to encourage them to construct de-sulfurizing facilities as soon as possible by making the supply of low-sulfur oil an obligation.

The ministry will make its plans public as soon as consultations with other ministries and agencies are completed.

Closer Control of Petrochemical Industry Planned

SK0512072891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0654 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 5 (YONHAP)—The government plans to rationalize the nation's petrochemical industry as its products are flooding the domestic market and upsetting the order of price structure.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry has instructed banks and other financial institutions to consult with it before providing petrochemical firms with loans, government sources said Thursday.

They said the recent excessive supply of petrochemical products were caused by overinvestment in plants and equipment.

The sources quoted an unidentified high-ranking ministry official as saying that despite some opposition, the government plans to go ahead with a rationalization plan because 60 to 70 percent of petrochemical companies have been asking the government to intervene to help stabilize the prices which had been thrown into chaos in recent months.

The ministry has taken a similar step for semiconductors and automobile industries, the sources said.

Dismissal of Ruling Party Floor Leader Viewed

SK0512010091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Dec 91 p 1

[Text] President No Tae-u dismissed Kim Chong-ho as floor leader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] yesterday, apparently holding him accountable for the railroading of controversial bills through parliamentary committees last week.

Yi Cha-hon, 56, a four-term journalist-turned lawmaker, was named new DLP floor leader and majority leader of the National Assembly, party spokesman Pak Hui-tae said.

Kim Yun-hwan, the party's secretary-general, and Na Ung-pae, chief policymaker, also expressed their intentions to resign, but were retained in their posts, the spokesman said.

He said Kim Chong-ho "voluntarily" tendered his resignation, assuming responsibility for the controversy triggered by the party's unilateral passage of the disputed bills, when he called on party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam at his home early yesterday. The executive chairman conveyed the resignation letter to President No later in the day.

Parliamentary sources, however, said Kim Chong-ho was actually fired.

The railroading of the bills, including ones governing the government's rice purchase plan and the development of the southern resort island province of Cheju, drew much criticism from the public as well as the press.

The sources said the DLP's sloppy handling of the bills, only months ahead of the next National Assembly elections expected in spring next year, may have irritated President No.

There had been speculation that Kim Chong-ho forced through the contentious bills at the instruction of Chongwadae, the presidential office.

Many ruling party lawmakers were also angry with Kim.

Though Kim is thought to be close to Kim Yong-sam, No. 2 in the DLP, it is unclear whether the abrupt action against the floor leader stemmed from factional strife within the party.

The outgoing floor leader was also under fire for touching off discord between the government and its party over whether the budget bill for fiscal 1992 should be slashed, according to the sources.

The budget bill cleared the legislature early Tuesday morning as the rival parties reached a last-minute agreement to trim 305 billion won from it.

The administration was said to have vehemently objected to any substantial reduction from the spending plan which allegedly contains many pork-barrel projects.

The opposition party had called for a reduction of 335 billion won of the budget bill, initially scaled at 33.5 trillion won, up 24.2 percent from this year.

Regarding the controversial bills, the new floor leader said he would seek a compromise settlement with the opposition Democratic Party [DP].

"Our party will be patient and solve problems through dialogue with the opposition," he said.

The DP earlier urged that those bills be reexamined at parliamentary committees, while the ruling party contended that they should be handled in accordance with the National Assembly (Steering) Law.

Burma

Manglapus 2-5 Dec Visit Ends; Ties Discussed

Meets Top Electoral, Law Officials

BK0412142791 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] U Ba Htay, chairman of the Multiparty Democratic General Election Commission, and commission members U Saw Kyar Doe, U Sann Maung, Saya Chai, and U Kyaw Nyunt cordially received Mr. Raul Manglapus, minister of foreign affairs of the Philippines, and members of his delegation at the Election Commission Office at 1400 today.

U Aye Maung, secretary of the Election Commission, was present at the meeting while the visiting delegation was accompanied by Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona, Philippine ambassador to Myanmar [Burma].

At 1500, Mr. Manglapus and his delegation, accompanied by the Philippine ambassador, paid a call on Chief Justice U Aung Toe at the Office of the Chief Justice.

Also present on the occasion were Justice U Aye Ohn of the Supreme Court and U Aung Nyunt, director general of the Supreme Court.

Later at 1600, Mr. Manglapus and his delegation paid a call on Attorney General U Tha Tun at the Office of the Attorney General.

Deputy Attorney General U Khin Maung Aye and U Thaung Nyunt, director general of the Office of the Attorney General, were present at the meeting.

The Philippine ambassador accompanied the Philippine minister and delegation to the meeting.

Earlier at 0830, Mr. Manglapus and his delegation visited the Pyidaungsu U-Yeik Nyein Park, People's Park, and the People's Plaza where they were received and shown around by U Khin Maung Lay, joint secretary of the committee in charge of the parks and director of the People's Assembly Office.

The Philippine minister and his delegation also visited the National Museum and were shown around by Dr. Ye Htut, director general of the Culture Institute, and responsible officials.

Not Allowed To Meet Aung San Suu Kyi

BK0512152691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1515 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Bangkok, Dec 5 (AFP)—Burmese authorites refused a request from Philippines Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus to meet detained Nobel peace prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, Manglapus said here Thursday on his return from Rangoon.

However, Manglapus said he had received information that the opposition leader, who had been under house arrest for almost two and a half years, was in good health, although he added that prospects for her release appeared bleak.

"We discussed the condition of Aung San Suu Kyi (but) my request to meet her was turned down," he said.

Manglapus was chosen by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) earlier this year to represent the group in talks with Rangoon on human rights in Burma.

But the Burmese military regime refused to accept Manglapus as an official envoy of ASEAN, forcing him to downgrade his mission to a bilateral visit.

Asked about the chances of the regime releasing Aung San Suu Kyi to allow her to travel to Norway to receive the Nobel prize later this month, Manglapus said: "I do not see any such possibility at all. They are quite adamant; it seems to me that it is their intention to keep her isolated."

Aung San Suu Kyi has been under house arrest since July 1989, but even so her National League for Democracy won a landslide victory in elections in May 1990.

Burma's military regime, which seized power in 1988 following the bloody suppression of massive pro-democracy demonstrations, has refused to recognise the election result.

Last month rumours circulated that the 46-year-old was on hunger stike and gravely ill, but Manglapus said he had received information that she was in good health.

"We have information that her condition seems to be good," he said.

"I have some details from sources, not necessarily the government, that she is attended to by two doctors and also by a dentist, as well as by household members," he said.

"She is living in her family house, by the lake, and she has amenities like television, videocasettes and apparently she is in enough humour to bake cakes," he added.

Manglapus said non-official sources told him Aung San Suu Kyi was allowed out of her house late last month to go to a mortuary following the death of one of her aunts.

Burmese authorites told Mangalpus that Aung San Suu Kyi's British husband, Michael Aris, could write to her on condition that his letters were not sealed.

"Mr. Aris is going to be allowed to write and I said I presume that she will be allowed to respond, and they said there is no problem with that," Manglapus said.

Mangalpus said the military regime appeared determined to keep her in custody until a new constituion was drawn up, but despite his repeated inquiries, he was unable to receive any timetable for the drafting of the new constitution.

"They seem determined, definitely, to keep her in custody until this whole process of the drafting of a constitution (is complete)," he said.

A senior member of the Burmese regime said recently that the military might retain power for another ten years.

Various Meetings Detailed

BK0612102891 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] The Philippine foreign minister, Mr. Raul S. Manglapus, together with his wife, paid a visit to Myanmar [Burma] from 2 to 5 December 1991 to improve bilateral relations and to discuss regional developments.

When Mr. Manglapus was received by the deputy chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, he said he had come as the foreign minister of the Philippines and not as the representative of the ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations], and said his visit was to further enhance the friendly relations with Myanmar. He said the Philippines believe that the important role of Myanmar in the region can be enhanced by stepping up its contact with countries in the region. He also explained that Myanmar's development momentum will further increase by contributing to the way of thinking and development of the Asian region.

During his visit, Mr. Manglapus also called on Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister for livestock breeding and fisheries and for agriculture and forests; Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade; the chief justice; the attorney general; and the chairman of the Elections Commission and members. During his meeting with the Burmese officials he exchanged views on economic, social, and political system developments and other matters related to bilateral cooperation.

The Burmese delegation headed by Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw and the Philippine delegation led by the foreign minister held discussions on domestic, regional, and international affairs. At the meeting, developments on Myanmar's economic and political systems, and Myanmar's stance at the United Nations were explained. Similarly, the Philippine side gave explanations on matters related to domestic affairs, election plans, natural disasters faced by the country, military bases withdrawal, and security and cooperation plans within the Southeast Asian region.

In the course of the discussions, the Philippines foreign minister unofficially inquired about those detained in Myanmar for violating the law and was told that action had been taken according to Myanmar law. He was informed that Myanmar does not pay any attention to those countries that do not have a clear view and are one-sided in their propaganda and application of pressure. Myanmar will continue to uphold and safeguard the three main objectives of the state—nondisintegration of the Union, nondisintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuity of national sovereignty.

During the trip, the Philippine foreign minister visited places of interest in Yangon [Rangoon] and also paid respects at the Shwedagon Pagoda.

Departs Rangoon 5 Dec

BK0512144891 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Philippine Foreign Minister Mr. Raul Manglapus, who headed a Philippine delegation to Myanmar [Burma], and his wife prayed at the Saint Augustine's Catholic Church on Inya Road this morning. The minister also visited Hlawga National Park.

In the afternoon the Philippine delegation attended a luncheon hosted by the Philippine ambassador in honor of Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw and left Yangon [Rangoon] by air in the evening.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw and wife; Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona, Philippine ambassador to Myanmar; responsible personnel from the Foreign Ministry; and staff members of the Philippines Embassy.

Elected Representative Permitted To Resign

BK0612073191 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Announcement No. 982 of the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar, dated 5 December 1991]

[Text] Subject: U Zau Ain, elected representative from Sumprabum township constituency, Kachin State, given permission to resign.

1. U Zau Ain, who represented the Kachin State National Congress for Democracy and was elected from Sumprabum township constituency, Kachin State, during the multiparty democratic general elections, has voluntarily sought permission from the commission to vacate his seat.

2. Acting on the above submission by U Zau Ain, and in accordance with Article 11-E of the Elections Law, the elections commission hereby permits the resignation of U Zau Ain as representative from Sumprabum township constituency, Kachin State, effective today.

By the authority vested in me,

Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Planned Space Program With USSR Canceled

BK0612072791 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Plans to send a Malaysian into space aboard a Soviet spacecraft have been canceled. However, a Malaysian is expected to be included in a future U.S. space program. The Minister of Science, Technology, and Environment Low Hieng Ding said this to reporters after meeting with a visiting U.S. astronaut, James Mitchell, in Kuala Lumpur. Mr. Low said the program with the United States will include environmental studies and will benefit the region.

Stand on Sanctions Against Iraq To Be Reviewed

BK0512140491 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said Malaysia will review its stand on sanctions against Iraq. He said in this (?age) sanctions should not be used where the population in a country is punished for actions by their leaders. The prime minister was talking to newsmen on his return to Kuala Lumpur tonight after attending the G-15 summit in Caracas in Venezuela and an official visit to the Caribbean Island of St. Lucia.

He said sanctions should not be applied on food and other essential items. He said the question of sanctions against Iraq is expected to be a major focus at the 6th meeting of the Organization of Islamic Countries in Dakar, Senegal on Monday. The deputy prime minister Encik [Mr.] Ghafar Baba will lead the Malaysian delegation to the meeting.

Possible Withdrawal From Tin Institute Noted

BK0612092091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0605 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 6 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Fed up with Brazil's and China's continued refusal to help finance the International Tin Research Institute (ITRI), Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand are threatening to quit the London-based institute and are looking into the possibility of jointly setting up their own facility.

All three are major tin producers and members of the Association of Tin Producing Countries (ATPC) from ASEAN.

Brazil and China are also major tin producers but are not members of the ATPC and have persistently refused to extend funding to ITRI which is now facing a shortage of funds.

Malaysian Primary Industries Minister Dr. Lim Keng Yaik said Thursday it is not fair for Brazil and China to continue to enjoy the benefits of ITRI's research without helping in the funding of the institute.

Moreover, the two countries are now the world's top tin producers and they should help the institute for the betterment of the industry and to boost the tin market.

A better tin market will definitely help the the economies of the two non-ATPC members as well as the export of the commodity, he told reporters here.

Singapore

Ambassador Says Japan 'Will Not Torpedo' GATT

BK0512135691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1336 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Singapore, Dec 5 (AFP)—Japan will not torpedo the current round of multilateral trade negotiations with a staunch insistence on protecting its rice markets, its ambassador said here Thursday.

Takehiro Togo said free trade was essential for Japan and Tokyo was committed to a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Speaking at a Foreign Correspondents Association lunch, he moved to ease fears Japan could snag the talks with its bar on rice imports if the United States and the European Community reach a compromise on farm subsidies.

"What I can say is that the Japanese Government, together with the parliament, is not going to torpedo the Uruguay Round negotiations at the end," he said.

Togo could not say what concessions the Japanese were prepared to make over their staple food, but said there was an "agonising" debate on the issue with the parliament considered unlikely to approve complete tarification.

"So we have to think of something else," he said.

On another matter, Togo doubted that the current economic slowdown and credit crunch in Japan would have a major impact on Japanese investments in the region.

He said, for example, that investments in Singapore were increasing and Japan had overtaken the United States as the city-state's top investor.

"I think Japanese businessmen are generally aware of the bright future and strong trend of development in this region, and I think it is not easily to be dampened by temporary reasons."

Cambodia

Sihanouk's Postponement of SRV Trip Viewed

BK0612011991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Dec 91 p 9

[By Jacques Bakaert]

[Text] Phatthaya—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, facing objections from two anti-Vietnamese factions over timing, has postponed his visit to Vietnam until April.

Before flying back to Phnom Penh yesterday, the prince told a press conference he had suggested a compromise over his trip to Vietnam, which was originally scheduled for this month.

He said he could visit Vietnam as head of state while Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen makes a separate trip as chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers.

Vietnam originally invited the prince, in his capacity as president of the Supreme National Council [SNC], along with Hun Sen as the prime minister of the State of Cambodia.

Prince Sihanouk wrote to Vietnamese President Vo Chi Cong, explaining that "Cambodia is going through a very serious internal political crisis which threatens to jeopardise the peace process and national reconciliation."

The prince also told the Vietnamese president about two letters he received, one from the Khmer Rouge and the other from the non-communist faction of Son Sann, urging him not to leave the country. They are concerned this could further complicate the peace process.

"As president of the SNC, I will have to abide by the rule of consensus, where each of the four factions in the SNC has a veto right. Given the objections of the Khmer Rouge and the KPNLF [Kampuchean People's National Liberation Front] (Son Sann's faction) there was no way I could have gone to Vietnam," the prince said.

He said it will not be possible for him to be away from the country in the next few months.

"I am aware of the necessity to remain, until further notice, in Cambodia to avoid further incidents which would be catastrophic not only for Cambodia but also for the entire region," Prince Sihanouk also said in his letter to the Vietnamese president.

The special SNC meeting in Phatthaya put the peace process back on track after the hitch caused by a mob attack on Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan on November 27, hours after his arrival in Phnom Penh. The attack prompted Khieu Samphan and Defence Minister Son Sen, both representing the Khmer Rouge in the SNC, to flee to Thailand.

"Many Cambodians are prejudiced against Vietnam but I want to follow the example of Gen de Gaulle who, after leading the French resistance against Nazi Germany during World War II, insisted on reconciliation with postwar Germany," the prince said.

He then suggested that "a state visit would solve the legal aspect," adding that Hun Sen could go to Vietnam alone as chairman of the Council of Ministers.

"I shall be very busy in Cambodia," said the prince, citing the arrival of foreign ministers from India and Australia, U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz and other personalities in Cambodia.

"I could probably go to Vietnam and Laos next April on my way to Beijing and Pyongyang," the prince said.

"And because I believe it is very important to have good relations with Vietnam, I shall invite the foreign minister of Vietnam to come to Cambodia," he said.

China reacted strongly over the attack on Khieu Samphan but Prince Sihanouk said he has not yet received any official notification from Beijing that the visit of Foreign Minister Qian Qichen to Phnom Penh will take place soon.

The minister was to have visited Phnom Penh this week, but following the November 27 incident Beijing shelved the plan, citing the fact that the minister had to accompany an official delegation to India.

To dispel the idea that China still favours the Khmer Rouge, the Chinese envoy to Phnom Penh told Prince Sihanouk that Beijing is not reacting so much to the attack but against the possible collapse of the entire peace process.

China obviously is not happy to see the alliance between the People's Party of Hun Sen and Chea Sim with FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, and Cooperative Cambodia], the faction led by Prince Norodom Raniriddh.

A senior Cambodian source said China is still suspicious of Vietnam's intentions and will not tolerate any "special relations" between Hanoi and the ruling party in Phnom Penh.

Chinese officials told Prince Sihanouk they do not support a return of the Khmer Rouge to power, but that Beijing simply wants to make sure that the peace process stays on track and includes the four factions.

Prince Sihanouk believes it will be better for the Chinese foreign minister to visit Phnom Penh soon and explain the point of view of Beijing directly to the Khmer factions.

Like other members of the Permanent Five, China has expressed satisfaction at the result of the Phatthaya meeting, which managed to rescue the peace process.

Sihanouk Appeals for Khmer Rouge Security

BK0612090791 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 Dec 91

["Appeal" by Norodom Sihanouk, chief of state of Cambodia and chairman of the Supreme National Council, to the Cambodian people; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] Today, I, Samdech Euv [prince father] Norodom Sihanouk, am honored to speak intimately to all beloved brothers, sisters, and children whom I respect, love, and think of very much.

I am lucky to be able to come back to live together with all brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, and venerable monks in our great Cambodian family forever until I die. I am very glad to live together with all venerable monks and compatriots as a great family. I am very happy to have received the very splendid support of compatriots, children, and venerable monks. I have now enjoyed the same happiness as in the past when we lived harmoniously together and joined hands to build the nation, serve the nation, and defend our motherland. We can now and in the future do the same thing as we did in the past prior to the coup d'etat on 18 March 1970.

Today, I have something to tell you as follows:

Earlier, on 27 November, the Democratic Kampuchea [DK] party—which we call the Khmer Rouge—sent a delegation led by Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen to our Phnom Penh capital in order to work in conformity with the commitment specified in the peace agreement that we, the four Cambodian parties, signed with the international community in Paris, capital of the French Republic, on 23 October. It is defined in the commitment that the four parties with their respective leaders must meet in the capital and live and work together under the chairmanship of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of our Cambodia, which is called in French Conseil National Supreme or CNS and in English SNC or Supreme National Council.

After returning, Khieu Samphan and Son Sen came across a mishap, as is known to all of you, and had to leave Phnom Penh for Bangkok, capital of the Kingdom of Thailand. The world community, particularly the five big powers which are permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], the UN secretary general, and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] proposed that I take the necessary measures in my capacity as head of state of all Cambodia and SNC chairman and as the father and mother of all Cambodians so that an implementation be undertaken in line with all conditions set in the peace plan, the agreement that we signed in Paris. This is to seek peace for our nation and stability for our Cambodia and to create possibilities for building multiparty liberal democracy in our country in conformity with the desire and aspiration of our Cambodian people in general. By so doing, those who want to join whichever parties or to set up any new parties may do so.

The United Nations will soon send many thousand military and civilian representatives to help us bring peace to our country after the long suffering that we have experienced. As you know, there were two wars which had caused immense losses to our property and lives among our compatriots. That is the war which had proceeded from 1970 to 1975 and the war which took place from December 1978 to June 1991. In June, we, the four parties, agreed to announce an end to our fighting. [Words indistinct] Pol Pot era, during which we suffered the most serious disaster unprecedented in our Cambodia and in all countries around the world. More than 1 million or nearly 2 million of our people lost their lives during the Pol Pot reign. We experienced all manner of sufferings. Each family incurred the most serious and incomparable danger. As you all already know, my own family, as your families, endured the same grave danger—five of my children and 14 of my grandchildren died and countless members of my family and that of my wife suffered the greatest danger and sufferings. They were subject to all manner of tortures and finally executed.

That being the case, Samdech Euv profoundly understands your painful hardships and that the 27 November demonstration was prompted by the affliction of the children, who can never forget their misfortune in the past. I do understand your memory of the past. I, as you know, love you and fully understand your grief. However, at this juncture we are duty-bound to solve some problems so as to ensure that our future will be safe and that killings and conflicts will not recur, because the latter constitute only a great danger to our nation and to us all if we do not take the necessary measures to prevent them, if we are not prepared to promote peace, solidarity, and unity for our nation in accordance with our aspiration and the desire of the countries which are our friends the world over. In this world, we only need friends and not enemies anymore. Our friends want us to implement the 23 October treaty or commitment that we signed with them in Paris. They wish to see Cambodia again develop and prosper and become a country called pays developpe [two preceding words in French], meaning a country endowed with flourishing civilization and prosperity without disgrace. As all of you, the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], and the State of Cambodia's Government, which I have esteemed highly and loved fondly, have said that we should link our Cambodia's stature to that in the Angkor era because we are Cambodian, the Angkor descendants.

As you already know, I, His Excellency Prime Minister Hun Sen, and other excellencies from our national Cambodian SNC, travelled to Bangkok in the Kingdom of Thailand. There we jointly worked with our friends—the international community, the major powers, and the United Nations—and decided that we would from now on do whatever possible to allow the 12 SNC members of our Cambodian nation, including myself as the SNC chairman, to stay peacefully and safely in Phnom Penh, our nation's capitial city. That being the case, I call on you all, my children, to help me make this task a success in keeping with the wish of the international community and the United Nations, which have asked us to prepare necessary arrangements so that we are able to be together harmoniously in a national society.

On the issue of the Khmer Rouge, Khieu Samphan and Son Sen of the party of Democratic Kampuchea should be brought in to be with us. This is to restore peace and prevent the return of a gloomy era in which fighting, killing, and vengeance would loom again. At present, we are asked to bring Khieu Samphan and Son Sen in to work within the framework of the SNC. They both said that they agreed—I begged them; they said all right, but asked for a guarantee of security. I and His Excellency Prime Minister Hun Sen of the State of Cambodia gave them all kinds of assurances and told them to come back—there will be no more danger—to join hands, to work harmoniously.

Therefore, today Euv [name Sihanouk calls himself] wishes only to deliver this short message to call on you all—my beloved and trusted children, brothers, and sisters—to help me, to help His Excellency Hun Sen achieve success in implementing the consensus adopted in Bangkok by the four Cambodian parties and the representatives of the United Nations, Paris conference cochairmen, and the five major powers. We already have endorsed a statement saying that we will work together harmoniously to bring the implementation of the peace accord to a 100 percent success for Cambodia and to promote liberal democracy and peace, thereby allowing national reconstruction to take place with no loss of time so as to improve the living standards of our nation and people everywhere throughout the country. As such, Euv firmly believes that all of you—the children, brothers, sisters, grandparents,—will help the State of Cambodia Government and the CPP—chaired by His Excellency Chea Sim, a distinguished leader,—who are the hosts in Phnom Penh as well as myself, Samdech Euv Norodom Sihanouk to make this task a success, thereby restoring peace in Phnom Penh forever, and this is even though the Khmer Rouge delegation is working with us here according to the Paris commitment. I wish to thank you in advance and firmly believe that we can work together harmoniously for the sake of our Cambodia's reputation. Thank you forever. May you enjoy the five blessings of Lord Buddha.

Trade Minister Interviewed on Trade With ROK

SK0612131591 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 6 Dec 91 p 4

[Report on interview with Lieutenant General Nhim Vanda, Cambodian trade minister, by correspondent Cho Pyong-chol on 3 December; place not given]

[Text] The prospect of economic cooperation between the ROK and Cambodia—a nation with which the ROK has no diplomatic relations—is very bright.

Cambodia, which has been recovering political stability rapidly since the Paris peace treaty was signed, is very positive about promoting economic relations with the ROK.

Lieutenant General Nhim Vanda, Cambodian Trade minister and vice defense minister, in a meeting with a KYONGHYANG SINMUN reporter on 3 December, revealed that "Cambodia will expand economic relations with the ROK, even though diplomatic relations with the ROK have not yet been established." In saying that "many countries lacking diplomatic relations with Cambodia have invested in Cambodia," he mentioned Hungary, England, Japan, Thailand, and Singapore.

In particular, revealing that he will visit the ROK in mid-December at the invitation of the Samsung group, he said that he will hold a meeting to explain to the ROK entrepreneurs Cambodia's investment situation. In addition, he said that he will promote the establishment of "the ROK-Cambodian Free Trade Committee" to smoothly promote economic exchanges between the ROK and Cambodia.

Cambodia, whose national economy has been all but ruined by a long civil war, is thirsting for foreign aid and economic cooperation. Minister Vanda, who is also serving as vice president of the External Trade Committee, said that "Prince Sihanouk appealed for foreign investment after returning home; this was effective, because many countries are giving aid and have revealed their intention to promote economic cooperation."

The first items that the Cambodian people want to buy from the ROK are chemical fertilizers, Minister Vanda said.

Saying that "tariffs will not be imposed on the chemical fertilizers imported from the ROK," he added that "this will be good for the ROK, because it can get a guarantee for a just price. This will also be good for Cambodia, because chemical fertilizers will be provided for the peasants at a low price."

In particular, he revealed that "if the ROK provides enough chemical fertilizers, Cambodia plans to purchase the products of the ROK small and medium-sized enterprises in large quantities, even though they are slightly expensive."

Referring to the method of payment, he stated that "the ROK can purchase natural rubber, timber, and agricultural products, which our country has in abundance." Thus, he indicated that trade between the ROK and Cambodia will be in the form of barter trade for the time being.

What is of concern about investment in Cambodia is whether the current regime will change its policies. However, the danger of that is not considered great.

Currently, Cambodia is composed of four factions: the current Cambodian Government led by Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers; the Sihanouk faction led by Prince Sihanouk's son; the Son Sann faction; and the Khmer Rouge faction.

The Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC), composed of the four political factions, is expected to form a constitutional assembly, to enact a new constitution, and to establish a new government according to the new constitution.

Recently, the current Cambodian Government and the Sihanouk faction signed a mutual cooperation treaty and united. In addition, the Son Sann faction is advocating a policy against communism. Thus, Western enterprises in Cambodia unanimously determined that the danger of investment has diminished.

Ye Renghak [name as transliterated], director of the External Trade Department of the Cambodian Ministry of Industry, said: "petroleum companies from England and Thailand signed a treaty to exploit petroleum, Japan invested much in Cambodia, and Singapore and Thailand are heartily promoting hotel and tourist projects." He added that "he hopes that the ROK will participate in investment as soon as possible."

Cambodia is trying to induce foreign enterprises to invest. This is aimed not only at reconstructing the economy but also at guaranteeing peace in Cambodia from foreign countries.

As a result of Cambodia's efforts, the Sukaraya, Monorum [both names as transliterated], and Royal Hotels, which were popular under the Pol Pot regime, have resumed business. They are busy repairing and improving their hotels. In addition, Westerners and Japanese are frequently visiting Cambodia to exploit new markets.

In particular, France is trying to recover its old authority in its former colony, Cambodia, with the dispatch of UN peacekeeping forces as an occasion. Japan, with a troop dispatch for peacekeeping operations as an occasion, is also trying to realize its ambition to dominate Southeast Asia through economic investment in Cambodia. We should hurry up to catch hold of the hands extended by Cambodia.

Chea Sim Sends Greetings to Lao Front Chairman

BK0612024391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Recently, His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD], sent a greetings message to His Excellency Maisouk Saisompheng, chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. The message noted:

On the 16th national day of the LPDR, on behalf of the KUFNCD, the Cambodian people, and in my name, we would like to extend the warmest and most intimate greetings to the fraternal Front for National Construction.

During the past 16 years under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], the LFNC, mobilizing firm national united forces, has achieved great feats in building, strengthening, and expanding economic, social, and cultural work, and actively contributing to defending peace in Southeast Asia and elsewhere around the world. These great feats and sacrifices made by the LFNC have constantly enhanced the LPDR's role and prestige in the international arena.

Our people are very proud of the victories scored by the fraternal Lao people and regard them as their own. The successful implementation of the resolutions of the Fifth LPRP Congress will certainly bring new victories in the cause of building and defending Laos, thus making it even more prosperous and bountiful.

As the Cambodian people are in a new historic stage of national reconciliation and as permanent peace is drawing near, we are convinced that the traditional relations of friendship and solidarity between Cambodia and Laos will further strengthen and develop in the interests of our two states, fronts, and peoples, thus contributing to peace, security, and social progress in Southeast Asia and the world.

We extend our best wishes to your excellency and all ladies and gentlemen in the LFNC and, through you, to all fraternal Lao people. May all of you enjoy good health and greater victories in all tasks. May the ties of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between our two fronts and the peoples of our two countries further develop and last forever.

Indonesia

Continuing Reportage on East Timor Shooting

UN Envoy 'Welcome' To Investigate

BK0512161591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0915 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Harare, Dec 5 (AFP)—U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar is welcome to send a personal envoy to look into the shooting of civilians in East Timor last month, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said Thursday.

But he reacted cooly at a news conference here to calls for a full U.N. inquiry into the incident, saying an Indonesian national commission had already begun investigations and Jakarta hoped that would be acceptable.

Alatas said Indonesia's U.N. ambassador was due to meet later Thursday with the director general of the U.N.

office in Geneva to discuss the requests for an international investigation into the shooting by Indonesian troops.

"We will listen to what the request is and if it is a personal emissary of the secretary general... of course we would say welcome, have a look," said Alatas.

But he added, "We would hope that, as incidents like this have happened in other countries before where the world did accept a national commission, why can't we have our national commission find out the facts first?"

According to the official version, Indonesian soldiers acting in self-defense killed 19 people and wounded 91 others at a funeral in Dili on November 12. According to witnesses, the troops opened fire without provocation on unarmed civilians, leaving between 72 and 115 dead.

Alatas described the incident as "regrettable and very tragic" and said that if the commission established that anyone had acted against the law they would be taken to court.

Alatas, who was on a visit to Zimbabwe with President Suharto, said Indonesia was concerned that a number of governments had apparently accepted "exaggerated and biased" reports without waiting for the findings of the commission.

"This kind of unfortunate and tragic incidents happen everywhere in the world, mistakes are perhaps made and they are being corrected. But a national commission is already now at work and I hope that everyone would agree with us that they should be given all opportunities to do their work," he said.

The United Nations has not recognised Indonesia's 1976 annexation of the former Portuguese colony of East Timor, and considers Portugal the nominal ruler.

But in accepting the possibility of a visit by a special emissary of Perez de Cuellar's, Alatas said: "We have always worked very closely with the U.N. secretary-general on East Timor. We wish to continue to cooperate very closely."

Suharto and his delegation were due to leave Zimbabwe for Tanzania later Thursday.

Commission Chairman Meets Commander

BK0612105791 Jakarta ANTARA in English
1018 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Dili (East Timor), Dec. 6 (OANA-ANTARA)—Chairman of the National Investigation Commission (KPN) Jaelani held a private meeting with Chief of East Timor's Operational Command Brigadier General Rudolf Samuel Warouw here on Friday.

Four other KPN members, meanwhile, went to the Wira Husada Hospital to collect information from victims of the November 12 incident, who were now treated in the hospital.

Two other members, namely, Clementino Dos Reis Amaral and Ben Mang Rengsay, according to plans, were to meet some witnesses of the incident which had claimed 19 lives and injured 91 others.

Jaelani stated that KPN's activities were not closed to the press but he asked for the journalists' understanding for not covering case-study activities such as the cross-examination of witnesses for the sake of the witnesses' safety and work smoothness.

Regarding the case of a family who sought their missing member, the chief of the Directorate of Sociopolitical Affairs of the East Timor Administration, J. Manurung, said that such a case was normal.

Based on experiences, he said, many people had deliberately wiped out their traces by escaping to other regencies after the riot.

However, after three months these people usually will return home, he said referring to the same case following demonstrations since the arrival of John Paul II in the province last year.

Presently there are four wounded youths treated in Baucau, 130 kilometers east of here, following the incident at Santa Cruz.

Upon an investigation, these people were found to have involved in the incident, he said.

Australian Trade Unions Ban Garuda Flights

BK0612090191 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0819 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Jakarta, Dec. 6 (ANTARA)—Trade and labor councils of the Australian states of Victoria, Western Australia, and Northern Territory have agreed to boycott Indonesia's flag carrier Garuda Indonesia starting from December 7, 1991, a dispatch sent from the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra to ANTARA said here Friday.

In Melbourne, the transport workers union also refuses to give any service to Indonesian airplanes from December 7 to 14, 1991.

Garuda Indonesia with flight routes to Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and vice versa is to face a temporary boycott on December 7 to 8, 1991.

The local trade unions put the 24-hour boycott on the airways because there is still uncertainty on that matter since the Australian Council for Trade Unions has not yet fully agreed on the decision of several states' trade unions to boycott Indonesia following the November 12 Dili incident.

The Australian Federal Government has objections against the planned boycott.

It was also reported from Sydney that M.V. "Anro Jayakarta" of Jakarta Llyod shipping company, which arrived at Brisbane seaport on December 3, has been boycotted.

The workers there stopped their activities two hours earlier than they were supposed to on the day the Indonesian ship called at the Brisbane seaport.

Starting from December 4, the workers completely refused to do loading and unloading services for the ship for indefinite period.

The boycott also affects a plan to ship steel worth eight million U.S. dollars from Kembla port (New South Wales) to Indonesia.

The South Coast Labor Council of New South Wales has issued an instruction to boycott ships coming from and going to Indonesia which arrive at or depart from Sydney Harbor.

Commenting on the planned boycott, Chief of the House's Transportation Affairs Commission Sujud Binwahyu said, "Indonesia should respond to it through diplomatic channels to state its stance."

He also said, actually one of Garuda's executives once told him that even if the planned boycott was put into effect, Garuda would not suffer too much.

"Garuda's flying routes to and from Australia have never been too profitable," he quoted his source at Garuda as saying.

Meanwhile, Theo L. Sambuaga of the House's Foreign and Defense-Security Affairs Commission said that he regretted the boycott by Australian trade unions' members.

"They seem to have taken the law into their own hand," he said adding that their "policy" was mainly based on suspicion resulting from the biased statement of Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

It was obvious that the planned boycott, he said, would seriously affect the Indonesia-Australia bilateral relations.

Sambuaga, although saying that everything would better solved in "cool head" reminded that "a reciprocal action could be inevitable."

He said the policy of the Australian trade unions was much influenced by the security disturbing movement in East Timor, Fretilin, which had always tried to discredit the Indonesian Government.

Meanwhile, an official of the Garuda headquarters contacted by ANTARA here Friday said that reports about the planned boycott had forced the headquarters to keep in touch from minute-to-minute with its representative offices in the country.

"We do not want any of our planes to be stranded in Australia. Therefore, we want to make sure that even if some Garuda planes have started to depart for the country when the boycott was already effective, we will do our best to call them back," he said.

He also said that should the plan be put into effect, Garuda might have to face some potential loss.

He declined to mention about the exact amount of the potential loss.

Garuda flies 22 times a week to Australia.

The boycott, however, did not seem to be welcomed by the travel agents in Australia, especially during the current holiday season.

The Australian Federation of Travel Agents Ltd, Northern Territory chapter, in a letter to the secretary of the Australian Trades and Labor Council (ATLC) said many had already booked and paid for holidays over the Christmas break and generally it was now too late to make alternative arrangements and even if other options were available, the cost would be higher.

"Therefore, if the proposed bans on Indonesian airlines do proceed, the Australian Federation of Travel Agents Ltd would ask that you give serious consideration to delaying them until the end of January," the federation's secretary Veronica J. Peetz said.

All-Points Travel Pty. Ltd. also said that Indonesia was a traditional destination for holiday traffic during the December-January school holiday.

It called on the ATLC to help it avoid financial and emotional hardship that would be caused to a large number of Australian citizens, unless ATLC deferred its plan at least until the end of January 1992.

Laos

Vientiane Rally Celebrates National Day 2 Dec

BK0512154791 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Today, 2 December 1991, marks the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. As the entire party, Army, and people throughout the country are celebrating this historic event, the party organization and administration of Vientiane Municipality in collaboration with various mass organziations this morning organized a grand rally at Vientiane Theater to mark the 2 December National Day. Over 1,000 Vientiane residents attended the celebration. Attending the rally as guests of honor were Oudom Khatthi-gna, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, party secretary and mayor of Vientiane Municipality, and a number of invited personalities. In his address, Oudom Khatthi-nga said:

[Begin recording] Vientiane residents and people throughout the country have this year registered achievements to welcome the country's two major events, namely the fifth party congress and the promulgation of the first Constitution of the LPDR. The fifth party congress has laid down the path for the continuation and expansion of the popular democratic system and the direction of the comprehensive renovation with an aim to bring about well-being for the people and progress for the country in conformity with the strong aspiration of Vientiane residents as well as the Lao people throughout the country. The promulgation of the Constitution, the fundamental law of the new regime, has testified to the existence, stability, and firm development of our new regime and the achievements accomplished by our people.

To welcome these two historic events, the party organizations, administrations, and mass organizations at all levels, and Vientiane residents in the past year, exerted their efforts to accomplish many outstanding achievements as follows:

In the field of agricultural production, despite grave natural disasters such as pests, droughts, and floods in many areas, thanks to our people's traditions of diligence and mutual cooperation as well as assistance from the party and state, we have managed to plant monsoon rice on 80 percent of the total acreage and minimize crop damage. It should be noted that the movement of intensive agriculture is being broadened. To date, many hundreds of families are capable of producing as high as six to seven metric tons of paddy per hectare. Through the implementation of the party's and state's plans and policies in forestry work, we have reorganized the forestry businesses. We have actively implemented the policy of shifting to new mechanisms in the fields of industry, handicrafts, trade, and services; promoted all economic sectors in the country; broadened cooperation with foreign countries; boosted domestic production with better quality and reasonable prices to meet the demand of the people in all areas; and contributed to efforts to generate jobs for laboring people. Along with the expansion of economic production, the financial and banking sectors have also registered considerable achievements. Revenue sources increased. Monetary control has been conducted in an orderly manner. Creditable work such as serving the production of agricultural and other sectors has made new progress.

Regarding the city and communications development, we have resolutely followed the direction of cooperation between the state and people. Our city is now in good order and is being beautified step by step. More roads inside the city and in the outskirt areas have been asphalt-paved. Roads to the rural areas have been enlarged and resurfaced.

In the cultural area, the people of all strata have supported and preserved our fine national traditions, customs, and cultures and checked all bad phenomena and indecent ways of life that can intoxicate our youths. We also pay attention to the preservation and renovation of ancient shrines and architecture, the common heritage of our country, which can attract foreign tourists to our capital.

Education work is also being further expanded. The increase in the numbers of students at all levels in the 1991-92 academic year has proved that the people of all strata are now imbued with the party's policy and consider education to be the work of the entire population. For this reason, the people of all strata always contribute materials and money to the construction and renovation of schools and pay attention to the living conditions of school teachers. Parents render full cooperation with schools for the future benefit of their children and the country. In compliance with the new direction set by the party and state, more private vocational schools were opened to provide education for our young generation. A number of graduates from secondary schools or high schools have pursued higher education with their own money instead of wasting their young lives on nothing.

Achievements in public health are admirable. In particular, the hygiene promotion movment and disease prevention plans have been promoted extensively with active participation from all organizations and people of all strata. Hence, we are able to prevent dangerous diseases such as malaria to a favorable extent. Meanwhile, traditional arts of healing have been promoted in many localities.

In the field of social welfare, despite our financial difficulties, we have been implementing the pension system and seeking ways to improve our performance in this regard to ensure good livelihood for pensioners. We are pleased to note that pensioners continue to greatly contribute to the causes of nation.

In the past year, the party organization and adminstration at all levels exerted much effort to render assistance to victims of all forms of disasters, in particular the people who were facing famine in Longsang Longton area where natural disasters hit for three consecutive years. The assistance was handed out in different forms such as the sale of rice to the people at cost. We received and helped resettle our Lao compatriots who returned from abroad on a voluntary basis, thus enabling them to earn their living like good citizens of the country.

More prominent achievements which should be mentioned here include grass-roots development. Through these achievements, the people of all strata have been imbued with the party's policies and state's regulations and laws and are more conscious of their right of mastery. Party organizations, adminstrations, and mass organizations at the grass-roots level have been upgraded and operate with more efficiency, thus significantly contributing to the maintenance of peace and order in the country and socioeconomic development in our municipality. [end recording]

Oudom Khatthi-gna went on to say that our past achievements have indicated that the renovation policy of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, in particular the leadership of the party organization and administration of Vientiane Municipality, is correct. Cadres, combatants, state employees, and people in Vientiane Municipality with their tradition of revolutionary heroism must unite as one soul to defend and further develop Vientiane Municipality and be determined to follow the path of the popular democratic system they have chosen.

In his address, Oudom Khatthi-gna also called on Vientiane residents of all strata to exert all their efforts to carry on the task of renovation to steadily develop Vientiane Municipality; enhance the sense of self-vigilance against all forms of subtle subversive schemes of the enemies; continue to go down to the grass roots to improve the political system; promote unity among party members, cadres, and people; enhance confidence in the leadership, lines, and policies of the party and state; consolidate the potential of all economic sectors to boost agricultural, forestry, and industrial production to earn more revenue for society.

Diplomatic Relations With Chile Restored

BK0612120491 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] According to a report from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a ceremony was held at the Lao Embassy in Thailand at 1000 on 6 December for the signing of an agreement on the restoration of diplomatic relations between the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and Chile. Bounkeut Sangsomsak, LPDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Thailand, and Fernando Gambao Serazzi, Chilean ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Thailand, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

In the past Laos and Chile maintained diplomatic relations which were later neglected during difficult situations in each country. The two countries, based on new developments in the current world situation, have decided to restore their friendly relations and cooperation on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in compliance with the aspiration of the Lao and Chilean peoples and the general trend in the world.

Thai Ambassador Hosts Celebration Reception

BK0612114691 Vientiane KPL in English 0932 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 6 (KPL)—On the occasion of the 64th birthday anniversary of King Phumiphon Adunyadet of Thailand, Ambassador Nikhom Tantemsap, last night held at his residence in Vientiane a grand reception.

Among the Lao officials present at the reception were Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, vice prime minister, minister of foreign affairs; Mr. Thongsing Thammavong, vice president of the National Assembly; Mr. Oudom Khattkhinga, the mayor of Vientiane capital.

Also on hand were members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of international organizations, Thai residents and businessmen in Vientiane.

The reception took place in an atmosphere of joyful festivity.

Philippines

'Contested' Issues May Delay Bases Pact Signing

HK0612020491 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] The scheduled signing of the base withdrawal agreement between the Philippines and the United States may not take place before the end of the year after all.

This is due to the firm position of Washington on three issues of the agreement. Some informants from the Foreign Affairs Department revealed that included in the contested issue was the insistence of the United States to fully utilize the base for military operations within the withdrawal period.

The Americans would also like to implement the provision on the status of forces agreement which was previously covered in the rejected treaty. Under this provision, the Americans are not liable for any violation related to the bases and they are also exempt from paying taxes on imports of cars and household appliances. Aside from this, both parties cannot agree on the nuclear-free provision of our Constitution.

Peaceful Solution to Spratly Islands Issue Seen

HK0612031091 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 4 Dec 91 p 1

[By staff member Joey Caburnida]

[Text] The long-standing dispute among five Asian countries over the oil-rich Spratly Islands appears headed for a peaceful solution.

Navy chief Rear Admiral Mariano Dumancas Jr. said naval officials of Southeast Asian countries and Australia are now exploring a peaceful settlement of the dispute.

Dumancas said delegates of the maritime symposium held last week in Sydney, Australia have started a dialog to peacefully resolve the possible area of conflict over the Spratlys.

The Spratly Islands, composed mostly of islets and atolls in the South China Sea, is being claimed by the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, China and Taiwan.

Naval forces of China and Vietnam previously clashed near the disputed islands, which resulted in several casualties.

Malaysia also constructed a resort in one of the islands they have been claiming, thereby adding tension in the area where some Filipino and Vietnamese troops are stationed.

The remote Spratlys, lying in the petroleum belt between Sabah and Southern China, is believed to have vast oil and natural gas deposits yet to be extensively explored.

Dumancas said the maritime symposium attended by delegates from the Philippines, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand discussed the peaceful negotiation among all the countries involved in the Spratly dispute.

"We have agreed that there is a need for all claimants to negotiate a peaceful utilization of the islands," Dumancas said.

He added proposals on a joint commercial exploitation of the islands was also tackled during the symposium.

During the anniversary program, the Navy chief noted the achievements of Naval District [ND] II, led by Commodore Eduardo Tolentino, in securing territorial waters from Mindoro to Zambales from smugglers and illegal fishermen.

He said the ND II is the most alert unit in the Navy, often intercepting smugglers enroute to Manila Bay.

Manglapus Ends Working Visit to Burma

Told Aung San Suu Kyi 'Healthy'

HK0612023491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 6 Dec 91 pp 1, 2

[By Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] The Myanmar [Burma] government has refused to allow Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus to see opposition leader and 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, but top officials of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) assured him that she was in good condition, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said yesterday.

The foreign office, citing a report transmitted by the Philippine Embassy in Yangon [Rangoon] which was released only yesterday, said: "The case of Aung San Suu Kyi was also touched by the (Myanmar) officials who briefed Manglapus on her present condition. The SLORC authorities assured Manglapus that she is well taken care of and that she is healthy."

Aung San Sun Kyi was last seen in July 1989 shortly after she was arrested. Her husband, Michael Aris, an Oxford University professor, said he last saw his wife in December 1989. Since then, there have been no reports on her whereabouts.

The foreign secretary expressed optimism before departing for Yangon Monday that he would be able to meet Aung San Sun Kyi. However, Manglapus refused to confirm if he made a formal request before Myanmar authorities to meet the 40-year-old Nobel winner.

"I cannot comment on that at this point," Manglapus told diplomatic reporters in Manila.

Manglapus, after he was refused by Myanmar's military junta to visit Yangon as an ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) representative, has been very cautious in issuing public statements related to human rights and political issues. To the western world, Aung San Sun Kyi is the embodiment of peace and her continued detention is a clear case of human rights abuse.

The West, especially the United States, has scored Myanmar for its disastrous human rights record. The United Nations also has called for Myanmar's military junta to institute democratic reforms.

Aung San Suu Kyi's opposition party won a decisive victory in the 1990 parliamentary elections which was totally ignored by the military government.

Yesterday, Manglapus ended his three-day visit in Myanmar as an official of the Philippine government yesterday. He is expected to confer with Thai foreign Minister Arsa Sarasin today before returning to the country. Manglapus is expected to arrive at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport this afternoon at 5 p.m. [0900 GMT].

Told of 'Return to Democracy'

HK0612124091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1228 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Manila, Dec 6 (AFP)—The military junta in Burma is sincere in its pledge to restore democracy, Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said here Friday after a visit to Rangoon. Manglapus, who was refused an audience with detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, told a news conference, "I believe in the sincerity of the SLORC in their plans to bring the country back to democracy." He also said neighborly dialogue instead of confrontation was the way to help hasten this process.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) is the military junta that took power in Burma following pro-democracy protests in 1988. It called parliamentary elections in 1990, but refused to accept the results after the opposition won an overwhelming majority.

Manglapus said he had been told by "the highest officials of the government" that the process of a return to democracy would involve the drafting of a new constitution by a convention which would include not only the winners of the election but representatives of all political parties and ethnic groups. The draft will be subject to approval by the junta, after which elections for a new parliament will be held, Manglapus said.

He said the Burmese Armed Forces "do not want to leave the government only to have to come back again" and that the military "wanted to stay in the barracks after restoring democracy."

Manglapus said he received no answer when he asked the Burmese junta for a timetable for democratic restoration. Asked how long the process would take, Manglapus said, "I honestly don't know. They themselves don't know."

Manglapus said dialogue and not pressure would help Burma attain democracy. "We have to be given the right to do it our way, not the American way, not the European way but the Philippine and the Asian way," he said.

The United States has pressed the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to adopt stronger measures to force the Burmese junta to cede power to a democratically elected government.

ASEAN, composed of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, rejected this demand. Instead, ASEAN foreign ministers, who met in July in Kuala Lumpur, designated Manglapus as the group's envoy to Burma.

His visit to Rangoon was downgraded to a bilateral status at Burma's insistence, but the secretary said he expressed the views of ASEAN during his three-day stay.

Manglapus earlier told reporters during a stopover in Bangkok that he had discussed the condition of Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for 2-1/2 years.

Last month, rumors circulated that the 46-year-old winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize was on hunger stike and gravely ill.

"We have information that her condition seems to be good," he said, adding, however, that the junta refused his request to meet her.

"It is their intention to keep her isolated," he said.

Aquino To Attend January ASEAN Summit

HK0512060891 Quezon City MALAYA in English 5 Dec 91 p 8

[Text] President Aquino will leave for Singapore on Jan. 26 next year, or a day after her 59th birthday, to attend the Fourth Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The summit, scheduled Jan. 27-28, will focus on measures to be undertaken by ASEAN members to tighten and strengthen their economic cooperation.

Mrs. Aquino is expected to be back in Manila by Jan. 28. This might be her last foreign travel as President.

The ASEAN heads of state are expected to tackle the Malaysian proposal to form an East Asian economic group similar to the 12-member European Common Market.

They are also expected to discuss regional security following the pullout of U.S. forces in the Philippines and the thawing of the Cold War.

Expected to accompany the president are Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao, and Trade Secretary Peter Garrucho.

New Foreign Exchange Decontrol Policy Discussed

HK0612030591 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 6 Dec 91 p 8

[By Andres B. Saracho]

[Text] President Aquino formally announced yesterday a three-point decontrol policy in the country's foreign exchange environment, the first significant step toward a complete deregulation aimed at putting the Philippines at par with its neighboring countries in terms of competition for foreign investments.

As approved last Wednesday by the Monetary Board the Central Bank's [CB] top policymaking body, the reforms include the liberalization of nontrade foreign exchange transactions, the increase in the allowable retention of export receipts by commodity exporters from 2 percent to 40 percent, and the increase in the access of exporters to foreign currency deposits from 50 percent to 70 percent.

"These (reforms) are in recognition of the need to enhance the competitiveness of the country's exports by way of reducing to the extent possible the transaction costs of exporters and increasing the foreign exchange resources available to them," Mrs. Aquino said in a speech before a meeting with Philippine exporters and other business sector representatives in Malacanang.

In a press conference, CB Governor Jose L. Cuisia Jr said, "These gradual but substantial decontrols are a milestone in our economic history with regard to the regulatory framework in the foreign exchange market."

Cuisia said the reforms will take effect on Jan. 2 while the second phase of the deregulation, covering the balanced foreign exchange position of the domestic banking system, will take effect on April 1.

The CB's strict foreign exchange policy has been in effect for the last four decades since 1949. The Monetary Board's approval of the revised regulations on nontrade foreign exchange transactions followed over three months of review by an ad hoc CB committee, led by CB Senior Deputy Governor Gabriel Singson, for a unified and codified set of regulations.

The liberalized rules on non-trade foreign exchange transaction includes:

—Full and immediate repatriation and remittance privileges for all types of investments, whether as direct equity or in listed shares or securities, will be allowed to be directly serviced by authorized agent banks without prior CB approval, provided they have registered with the CB.

—The mandatory surrender requirement of foreign exchange receipts will be limited to specified resident firms which obtained dollars in the normal course of business. Cuisia emphasized that this was a departure from the rule existing since 1949 which requires all Philippine residents to sell their foreign exchange receipts to the banks within three days.

"Among the exchange earners who will no longer be required to sell their dollar earnings to the banking system are the hundreds of thousands of overseas contract workers who will now be free to keep or dispose of their foreign exchange earnings without violating CB regulations," Mrs. Aquino said.

—The import of foreign currency into the country by both residents and non-residents will be freely allowed; and

—On the foreign currency deposit system, the eligibility of deposits under the system will be liberalized to be consistent with the basic policy change allowing non-surrenderable foreign exchange to be deposited in a foreign currency account.

Also part of the decontrol is the lifting of limits on the volume of dollars that can be brought out of the country. Previously, the CB disallowed the export of foreign exchange at over $3,000 for travels to the U.S., Japan and Europe and $1,000 to other countries. Cuisia said, however, that the maximum purchase of dollars in the banking system would still be pegged at $5,000.

"With this blackmarketing and dollar smuggling will be a thing of the past," Cuisia emphasized.

Further, exporters will be allowed to retain 40 percent of their foreign exchange earnings in a special foreign currency deposit account which can be used for directly trade-related expenditures such as importation of raw materials and capital equipment, and for travel and promotional expenses.

The 40 percent limit, which was higher than the 30 percent proposed by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry last September, was estimated to amount to $2.7 billion for 1992.

To further assist the export sector, the Monetary Board likewise increased the value of the export letters of credit, purchase order and sales contract which can be borrowed from an FCDU [expansion unknown] from 50 percent to 70 percent, and the expansion of the possible use of the loan to include financing of import requirements of exporters.

Aquino Disagreement With Striking Teachers Noted

President Gives Education Speech 4 Dec

HK0412044191

[Editorial Report] Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog at 0246 GMT on 4 December broadcasts live a speech given in English by Philippine President Corazon Aquino to a group of teachers and education secretaries at Malacanang Palace. Aquino opens her speech, entitled "Education for All—Philippine Plan of Action" by thanking the audience for their dedication to a free, peaceful world. She says: "Recent studies involving 150 ASEAN scholars stress the need for education to address the forces of change and to prepare the citizens of the future."

Aquino describes education as a commitment to sustain the momentum of restored democracy. She says: "It is a guarantee for the best of Filipino values, talents, and competence to endure." She announces the creation of a permanent program management team to provide the National Committee on Education with technical assistance.

Aquino encourages the Department of Education, Culture, and Sports and the National Economic and Development Authority to continue their effective partnership in this crucial stage of implementing the new program. She continues: "I am also directing all line agencies to include the education for all projects in your development agenda. Mobilize all available resources for the implementation of these projects. In the few months we have before us, I entrust you to speed up laying the groundwork for the long-term program with the non-government organizations, to continue to be active partners of our government by serving as co-proponents of this project, especially as we endeavor to replicate them [education projects] in all our regions."

At 0259 GMT the speech ends.

Teachers Do Not Recognize Dialogue

HK0512114691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Report by Sonny Casulla of DZRH Unit 9; live]

[Text] [Casulla] Manila Public School Teachers Association [MPSTA] President Benjie Valbuena denies that the teachers who spoke with President Aquino regarding the resolution of their hunger strike were MPSTA representatives or hunger strike participants.

Benjie Valbuena gave this statement to clarify what they heard on various radio stations, excluding DZRH. When interviewed, he said that the teachers are currently speaking with the president. Here is the statement of Benjie Valbuena, president of MPSTA:

[Valbuena] This morning, we were on alert due to reports that the president will talk to striking teachers. But now, we have learned that the dialogue with President Cory is on-going but not with those of us who are on the hunger strike. They are talking to teachers who have nothing to do with this issue. What is even more painful is that those teachers are pretending to be MPSTA officials and representatives. I, as MPSTA president, am now denying this.

[Casulla] In relation to this, Valbuena also warned that this thing [fake dialogue] being orchestrated by Education Secretary Isidro Carino is only aggravating the situation. Earlier, Senator Joseph Estrada paid the teachers a surprise visit and saw their pitiful condition. He expressed his sympathy for the teachers and his hope that their hunger strike can be resolved as soon as possible.

Aquino Rejects Executive Clemency Grant

HK0512114591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 Dec 91

[By Dick Sinchongco of DZRH Unit 6 at Malacanang; live]

[Text] The government and the teachers on hunger strike remain deadlocked. While dismissed teachers continue to press hard for their demands, President Aquino also stood firm on her stand.

In her meeting with some teacher representatives, the president rejected the proposed grant of executive clemency to a number of dismissed teachers who can be considered minor offenders. In the meeting, which was not attended by Education Secretary Isidro Carino, President Aquino also pressed her precondition that teachers should first stop their hunger strike prior to their dialogue with the president.

The teachers were also defiant and they rejected the call of the president to first stop their hunger strike. The president further said that dismissed teachers should also present new evidence to Secretary Carino. She said teachers were expelled from service by Carino for leading the teachers' strike held last year. The dismissed teachers would like to be reinstated into service. They raised their case with the Supreme Court, which supported Carino's decision to expel them and eventually dismissed their case.

High-Level Military Rebel Leader Surrenders

HK0612084091 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Another top rebel soldier surrendered to the government today. The rebel soldier was identified as former Colonel (Neon Abuen) of Philippine Military Academy Class '71 and former classmate of Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan. The rebel soldier was formally presented to media men this afternoon at Camp Aguinaldo. General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chief of staff, said that (Abuen) is one of the organizers of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement. (Abuen's) surrender leaves only 10 rebel soldiers still at large.

Meanwhile, the AFP continues its massive manhunt for former Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan.

Abadia Urges Honasan To Surrender

HK0612110091 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 6 Dec 91

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Text] General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chief of staff, said that only President Corazon Aquino can order an end to the massive manhunt launched against former Lieutenant Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan and 10 other military rebel leaders who are still at large. In a speech before the troops of the 602nd Infantry Brigade stationed at Davao del Norte, Abadia said that although operations against the remaining leaders of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union are now under way, the door is still open for their return. However, the AFP chief stressed that after the 23 November deadline for their surrender, all negotiations on the military rebels' eight talking points also ended.

Furthermore, the general said that before Honasan can ask for the continuation of negotiations on their eight talking points, he should first return to military control.

At the same time, Abadia also added that Honasan wasted his opportunity to convince the government to pass an amnesty law by refusing to return to military control. The AFP chief also stated that at that time, Senators Maceda, Enrile, and Estrada were prepared to draft a bill granting amnesty to both rightist and leftist rebels.

He also said that if Honasan surrenders, there might be a chance for them to revive the proposed amnesty bill.

Rebel Leader Denies Rallying Support in Cebu

HK2911065691 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Nov 91 p 26

[By Cerwin T. Eviota, Irene R. Sino Cruz, and Jonji Y. Gonzales]

[Text] Cebu City—Military and police intelligence units have been monitoring the activities of a rebel military officer who led coup attempts in Cebu in 1987 and 1989.

Chief Superintendent Triunfo Agustin, police director in Central Visayas, said he has been checking if ex-Constabulary Lt. Col. Tiburcio Fusillero has violated conditions of his "safe conduct pass."

"The monitoring is mainly procedural. We're just checking if he followed the conditions of his status," Agustin said.

Interviewed by the INQUIRER over the weekend, Fusillero admitted he had no safe conduct pass but said he came to Cebu two weeks ago leaving a "word of honor" he would return to Camp Crame.

"It's a matter of trust and I don't intend to break it. I will return (this) week," he said.

Fusillero is supposed to be under detention since he was arrested along with rebel Air Force Brig. Gen. Jose Commendador for leading the Cebu end of the December 1989 coup.

He and ex-Brig. Gen. Edgardo Abenina, then Recom [Regional Command] 7 chief, led mutinous soldiers here during the failed coup on Aug. 28, 1987.

"I was released early this month and placed under restriction under the custody of a superior officer at Camp Crame," Fusillero said. He refused to identify the officer.

Fusillero said he was in Cebu for rest and recreation but denied coming to consolidate forces of the Rebolusyonaryone Alyansang Makabansa [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] here for another coup attempt.

"I have not gone underground. I am in the open. I'm only here for a vacation," he said.

Agustin said he doubted Fusillero was rallying rebel forces in the province even after putschist Gregorio Honasan earlier said that RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] has been consolidating its forces nationwide.

Fusillero said he, Honasan and other RAM leaders were keeping their communication lines open.

Last week, he met with Superintendent Panfilo Lacson, Cebu Metrodiscom director and his classmate at the Philippine Military Academy batch '71, and Superintendent Hiram Binatiro, chief of the Criminal Investigation Service in Central Visayas.

Fusillero also urged the government to continue the dialogue between Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff, and Honasan "if it wants to keep peace."

"We are civilized people. There should be no limit with the talks," he added.

The RAM leader earlier said on his arrival here that rightist military elements "will take a direct hand in next year's elections should it be marred by fraud." He did not elaborate.

Reportage on Problems of Bibit Detention Release

Release Delayed Pending Government Motion

HK0612101791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 6 Dec 91

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Text] General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff, said that the military still cannot release former Lieutenant Colonel Billy Bibit.

In a press conference held at Camp Aguinaldo, Abadia said that he has received Defense Secretary Renato de Villa's directive issued in response to the court order allowing Bibit to post bail. However, Abadia said that De Villa's directive requires the resolution of the motion for reconsideration filed by the government asking for an increase in the bail to be posted from P [Philippine pesos] 750,000 to P1.5 million pesos before Bibit's release can take place.

Abadia said that Bibit's bail must be increased in light of his attempt to escape from the Manila City jail last April.

At the same time, Bibit's spouse, Lourdes, said that they will file contempt charges against Abadia and De Villa.

Abadia also added that even if they lose in their motion for reconsideration, they still cannot release Bibit if there are other charges to be filed against him.

According to General Abadia:

[Begin Abadia recording in English] The secretary of defense, as long as there is no objection to the recommendation for the release or detention of ex-Lieutenant Colonel Billy Bibit, provided that the motion for reconsideration in criminal case number 3-0010945-Rebellion now pending at the regional trial court branch in Ortigas City [as heard] express results, and provided that there exists no other charges or proceedings pending against him to warrant further confinement, or any other [indistinct words] cases to that effect. Meaning, the government filed a motion for reconsideration.... [end recording]

Case Dismissed, Immediate Release Urged

HK0612084691 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 6 Dec 91

[By Claude Vitug]

[Text] Colonel Billy Bibit's release papers, from the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] detention center, are now in the hands of General Lisandro Abadia, AFP chief of staff. He received the papers after Defense Secretary Renato de Villa signed them. This is based on our interview with Undersecretary Leonardo Quisumbing, who processed Bibit's papers after the courts ordered Bibit's release from military custody.

[Begin Quisumbing recording in English] As far as our studies show, we have the letter of the chief of staff, we have the court order for the release, and we have also the motion of the Department of Justice. Now, in all this, we also said that chief of staff is recommending the immediate release. And the subject's counsel, Attorney Adaza, verbally [word indistinct] to me that this release is part of the peace and reconciliation process initiated by the chief of staff.

Now, our recommendations to the secretary [De Villa]—let me read this to you :

Remedies considered were recommended that this matter be referred to the chief of staff with the information that the department will interpose no objection to the release of the person or the subject. This of course, from the order of the court, that there be no other charges or proceedings pending against him to warrant further confinement or any order, in any other case, to that effect. [end recording]

Since there are no other pending cases against Colonel Billy Bibit, General Lisandro Abadia, AFP chief of staff, has to release him, who is presently confined in the AFP detention center.

Meanwhile, Attorney Renato Quisumbing, Department of National Defense undersecretary and legal department head, denied withholding Bibit's release papers, contrary to accusations made by Attorney Homobono Adaza. Quisumbing said that he was able to fulfill his job as legal counsel and DND Legal Department head, which involves the review of release papers from the regional trial court and its submission to Defense Secretary De Villa.

Seven NPA Rebels Surrender to National Police

HK0612073091 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Seven members of the New People's Army [NPA] have surrendered to the Philippine National Police [PNP] in different parts of the country. The NPA members who surrendered to the PNP were identified as follows: Andres Billeza, alias Comrade Junior, and Juanito Mata from Talisay, Negros Occidental; Janie Veloso, alias Comrade Janie, and Rosanna Andreta, alias Comrade Jean, from Davao del Norte; Diosdado Paquero and Gar Rami from New Corella, Davao del Norte; and Lucio Ehim from Davao City, who was wounded in his first battle, prompting him to return to the fold of the government. The captive NPA men are now undergoing tactical interrogation.

NPA Leaders, Supporters Return to Government

HK0212102291 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 2 Dec 91

[By Romy Gonzales from Baguio City]

[Text] A total of 106 top officials and supporters of the New People's Army [NPA] have returned to the government from 29 October to 29 November this year.

Colonel Rene Dado, 702d Infantry Brigade [IB] commander, said that 90 NPA supporters returned to the fold of the law on 28 October in Barangay Mainit, Bontoc, Mountain Province, while a high-ranking rebel official and 15 supporters surrendered to the 702d IB in Tadian, Mountain Province.

Colonel Dado said two NPA members died while one was wounded on the government side during an encounter between the 69th Infantry Battalion's Charlie Company, lead by Sergeant Wilbur Mendoza, and about 50 NPA rebels in Barangay Mabalate, Tadian, Mountain Province on 29 November. The two slain rebels were not identified.

In related news, Major Rudy Deguligado, group commander of the Civil Relations Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP], said the Philippine Army's duty in Mountain Province is to enforce a directive of the AFP leadership and provide security and improvement to the area. Deguligado stressed they would not indulge in verbal exercises with any local official, especially with the election drawing closer. He said that 90 people have died and 99 were seriously wounded in the entire Cordillera due to NPA atrocities. From 1 January to 30 November this year, the NPA had carried out about 16 terrorist activities, four kidnappings, a liquidation, two robberies, and nine ambushes in Cordillera.

Court Orders Issuing Passport to Mrs. Marcos

HK0512015491 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] The Manila Regional Trial Court again ordered Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus to issue a passport to former First Lady Imelda Marcos. The order was given by Judge William Bayhon after dismissing the motion presented by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus to reverse the previous decision of the court last October 1991. That 7 October decision gave Mrs. Marcos the right to travel back to the Philippines. Solicitor General Frank Chavez said that he will bring the case to the Court of Appeal. Judge Bayhon said that the motion presented by the government lacks merit, prompting him to issue an order to give Mrs. Marcos a passport.

Peace Talks With Muslim Sessionists Uncertain

HK0612051291 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 6 Dec 91 p 4

[By Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] Peace talks between the Philippine government and the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) under the auspices of the 46-nation Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) may not take place at all as the government does not want to elevate the peace negotiations to the "international level," diplomatic officials said yesterday.

The holding of peace talks was proposed last month by OIC deputy secretary general Ibrahim Saleh Bakr to President Aquino when he visited the country to put an end to the decades-old problem of Muslims in Mindanao and to craft a compromise agreement over the implementation of the 1976 OIC-brokered Tripoli Agreement.

Diplomatic officials who refused to be named said it has been the position of the Philippine government that any negotiations with the MNLF must be held in the country and "without any interference from outside powers."

The same officials said agreeing to the peace talks under the sponsorship of the OIC would only "internationalize the Muslim issue." They said the mistake committed in 1976 should not be repeated at all, referring to the Tripoli accords.

Asked to comment on the statement of President Aquino that she was willing to talk with the MNLF, the officials said what the President agreed to was the "concept of the talks" which they said did not mean she was agreeable to OIC-brokered negotiations.

The OIC brokered in 1976 peace talks between the Philippine government and the MNLF which ended the fierce battles between government troops and Muslim rebels in the South. The talks also resulted in the Tripoli Agreement which calls for the granting of autonomy rule to 13 provinces in Muslim Mindanao. The MNLF has rejected a government implementation of the Tripoli Agreement saying it was a "bogue autonomy" since only four provinces comprised the autonomous region of Muslim Mindanao.

Three Religious Franchise Measures Approved

HK0612060191 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 6 Dec 91 p 11

[Text] The Senate yesterday swiftly approved on second reading three religious franchise measures, a move seen to allow religious groups to be active in the coming elections.

The new 25-year franchises are for the Radio-Veritas Global Broadcasting System, formerly owned by the Roman Catholic Church; Christian Era Broadcasting Service, Inc.; and Iglesia Ni Cristo [Church of Christ], which is only for private telecommunications and an extension of its previous franchise under Republic Act No. 4339.

All franchises were required to comply with a general telecommunications policy law that will be passed by Congress in the future.

Veritas TV

Veritas, which will revive Channel 11 and thus asked the Senate to include television broadcasting in its franchise, and Christian Era, also owned by the Iglesia Ni Cristo, were required to publicly sell 30% of their common stock within three years from the effectivity of the new franchise.

No single person or entity will be allowed to own more than 5% of the stock of offerings.

Senator Ernesto M. Maceda said Congress should issue a policy on allowing religious groups to engage in commercial stations.

Tax

He proposed a 3.5% franchise tax for Veritas. This was approved by the Chamber.

Senator John H. Osmena, public services committee chairman, noted Veritas went into commercial operation to make it viable.

He added there will be no tax exemptions for religious groups engaged in the industry.

Thailand

King Appeals for Unity in Birthday Address

BK0512151591 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1400 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Address by King Phumiphon Adunyadet to public gathering to celebrate his birthday at Chitlada Palace on 4 December—recorded]

[Text] Thank you, prime minister, for your greetings on behalf of everyone gathered here today. This is a good thing because 30 years ago or so many delegations had to be received for each of them to deliver their greetings. But if the same practice were to be used today there is no way the affair could be completed in one day. In the past, after the ceremonies in the palace, I would receive the people who came to convey their greetings. I did not have time for lunch, because from noon to 1600 it was time to receive guests and at 1630 there would be another ceremony in the palace.

If the prime minister had not come to my rescue today, I would have spent a lot of time meeting each delegation to receive its greetings. Each delegation would begin with the words: Your excellency; 300 delegations would already consume 15 minutes. Each delegation would then say: I, the delegation name, wish to convey greetings; this would consume another 15 minutes for all delegations. The following contents of the greetings would then take a lot of time. The delegations' concluding remarks would take another 10 minutes combined. Then I would have to show appreciation by at least saying: Thank you, which alone would take another 10 minutes for the 300 delegations. I would also have to extend my cordiality, such as saying to certain visitor: I haven't seen you in a long time, how are you doing? This would take more time; altogether it would take about one and a half hours to exchange pleasantries, not taking into account walking time. At times it might not be appropriate to say something more than just: Thank you. All of this takes time.

Today, those of you who are here have given the prime minister the task of delivering the greetings. The prime minister's statement would give me an idea of what issues I should speak about. There are many issues on which my remarks may conflict with what is technically taught. When taking into consideration everything that concerns Thailand—that is, people should be able to earn their livelihood conveniently and they should enjoy safety and just administration—all of it should be based on technical principles. But we take some technical principles from the wrong places which are different from here. For instance, many people say that the Western suit is hot and not suitable to the climate in Thailand, but the business suit has not altered so it would not be too hot. But if winter clothes are to be used, cool rooms would be needed. Some air-conditioned places are so cold that cold-weather clothes are needed. But it would be wasteful to generate enough coolness to enable use of cold-weather clothes in a country that has hot weather. This wastefulness is also poor economy.

The same is true in other areas as well. Regulations or certain technologies are sometimes not suitable to the conditions or the characteristics of the Thai people. A lot of time can be spent speaking on this matter. Although today has been designated by the government as Environment Day, I will not speak about the environment because I spoke about it a good deal two years ago. It would not do for me to speak too much about it because there will be people disagreeing with it.

Two days ago I received a senior UN official, the UNESCO executive director. He talked about the environment and remedies to its problems, which if I were to reveal today might draw reaction from some experts and might even trigger a demonstration at Government House or somewhere else. So I will not speak on this topic because it would evoke needless trouble.

Speaking about resolving a situation, you probably heard my statement yesterday at the Royal Guards parade. In the beginning I talked about Thai people being able to preserve national independence and sovereignty, using, what I said was unity and compromise. Actually my text says: love for unity [*ru rak samakkhi*]. But I slipped, saying: *ruraksa makkhi*, in which the word *makkhi* has no meaning. So I added the word *khwam*. The smoke from the cannon guns upwind got into my eyes and caused me to misread. I will have to ask the Meteorological Department director why the wind changed direction. The slip caused me to read the text as observing unity when in fact it read love for unity, but it was read as observing unity. The reason the text was written that way is because the fact is that the Thai people love unity, which is why they still exist today. Otherwise they would not exist. If someone should say something, they would disagree loudly.

The Thai population about 40 years ago was 18 million; today's population is three times that, or more than 54 million, or nearly 60 million. It is somewhat difficult to know how to be united. This is because with so many people it is difficult to know each other, but it should be possible to observe unity. This means everyone considers himself a Thai and regardless of anything that might happen he knows there must be unity. He knows the meaning of the word unity, but should also love and foster the concept. Why does he cherish unity? It is because the Thai people are intelligent [words indistinct]. The Thai people are intelligent, they know that when danger comes and they do not use unity and compromise and refuse to accept what is acceptable and usable they would be doing nothing, meaning they would not be able to earn their livelihood because there are no tools, articles, or peace. It is necessary to cherish unity, meaning being able to compromise even though what is involved may not be completely right technically. If we do not use it or have nothing to use, we should use something on a temporary basis even though its quality is not that good. Everything is not 100-percent correct. But what is usable must be used, or else we could not survive.

It is evident in the past three years that several countries in the world that used what their founders called an ideal adminstrative system have disintegrated. Is Thailand going to disintegrate too? Thailand can be considered as having survived well to this day. Foreigners, who do not seek to flatter us, visit us when we did not ask them, or say that our country is good when we did not ask them to praise our country. They were not asked to say good things. On the contrary, they were told that Thailand is actually suffering. They would say: no, no. Actually they did not say no, no, because they spoke foreign languages which we did not understand.

About 10 days ago a foreigner visited me, saying he wanted to see me even though he did not hold a position requiring an audience; he was neither a foreign leader, prime minister, nor parliament president. He used his own language and had to have an interpreter. After the ususal greetings, he said his friend, who is the president of his country, asked him to ask me for advice. I asked what advice he wanted. He said general advice on national administration and sports and youth management. He said the administration in Thailand has been very good, bringing much progress. I asked him in which way was it good. He said it was good because it brought progress and unity. I did not accept the praise about Thailand's excellence, insisting that Thailand has suffering and that his country's sports and development administration has been exemplary. He thanked me for the praise but insisted on my advice. I did not know what to do because the visitor's country has been doing many concrete things, such as sports training and cooperatives organization which are well known. Actually, our people had made an observation tour of that country and implemented projects upon their return. The projects themselves were not successful. But where we succeeded was in using it as a model and applying it in a Thai way. Actually, we implemented similar projects before that country did. We had cooperative villages, but used the so-called poor-man style that avoided heavy investment as was the case in the visitor's country. So, I told him that the advice I could give is to implement projects in the poor-man style. This is because we are not a rich country, rich enough to survive, but not a very advanced country. We do not want to be a very advanced country. If we become a very advanced country, we would then only fall behind. Highly industrialized countries can fall behind and at an alarming rate too. However, if we have an administrative system which we call a "poor-man" system—a system which is not too attached to academic principles but is imbued with a sense of unity and generosity—we can survive forever. We will not be like those who are too academically oriented. One day they will reach the final page of the textbook which says there is more to the future but elaborates no further. Once they close the textbook, there are no more methods and there is nothing else to go on; they will have to return to page one, meaning beginning anew or fall behind. However, if we use a textbook that is not rigid, this textbook is never going to end.

Finally, I would not give advice to the visitor who sought it because his country was already better. But eventually I told him that if he really wanted advice, he must listen carefully to what I say next. I spoke to him in English and am now pondering how to translate that into Thai. You people here understand English, but you are Thai and so we must speak Thai. I nearly ran out of ideas on how to translate what I said in English into comprehensible Thai. After the visitor heard what I said he opened his mouth, asking what I meant to say. However, the translation into Thai would be: Our loss becomes our gain. Economists would smile and disagree with this saying of mine: Our loss is our gain. This is clearer if spoken in English: Our loss is our gain [preceding four words spoken in English]. The visitor asked to me to repeat this. I did but he did not respond, indicating he wanted an explanation. I spoke about an action whereby we lost at first, but the loss subsequently amounted to an indirect gain. This is directly related to work of the government, or the government's money, or essentially the people's money. If we want the people to enjoy a good living standard, we must invest or create projects which cost millions of baht. Once we implement such projects, we expend money, thus a loss and the government must allocate money from the national budget which comes from the people. So the money is spent, but if the project is good the people will soon reap a profit, but not the government. If the project results in a better living standard for the people, the people benefit in terms of money, but the government gains nothing. But if we take a close look, once people live well and earn income the government will be able to collect tax easily; there is no tax evasion by people whose income has improved and thus are able to pay more tax. If the people cherish unity, they will be satisfied and will pay tax from their income so that the government can implement more projects for national progress.

If we know unity and know that sacrifice is a gain, our country will be prosperous. This is because the happiness enjoyed by the people is a profit which cannot be calculated in monetary terms. We realize that we have not lost what we should not have lost. For example, if people are poor, the government, the Ministry of Interior or the Public Welfare Department in particular, or any other departments, must give welfare assistance to those poor people. The government has to spend millions or billions of baht each year to help those poor villagers without gaining anything back. This is because these people are very poor and have no strength to pay back. They do not even have jobs because they are so poor. But we can make their life better. As a result, they will be able to earn their living, thus consequently reducing their dependence on government welfare.

Well, it may be impolite to talk about other countries' welfare. In big cities, for example in New York City in the United States, each day millions of baht are spent in welfare for the unemployed. Since their currency is the dollar, when changed into Thai baht, the amount of money must be millions of baht. Those people do not want to work because it they do, they will not be eligible for welfare money. People who have jobs will have their welfare cut off. Besides, their jobs may earn them less than they get from welfare. This is because they are entitled to a fixed amount of money from welfare. It is their constitutional right to receive such welfare. Actually unemployed people can work. When they have no jobs, they always tell welfare authorities that they are unemployed. They are always asked by the authorities whether they really have no work to do. After checking out that they have no jobs, they will automatically be entitled to receive welfare support. It is their regulation. That is why these people do not want to work. They only wait for welfare money. If they work, they will make only a little amout of money and their welfare will be cut. In the final analysis, those people who only want to receive welfare money are worthless to society and to themselves. They only want to live on welfare. If we in Thailand want to follow this practice, we will use a lot of funds for nothing. We will spend the money we collect from taxes imposed on working people on those people who intentionally do not want to work. However, the situation in Thailand is not like that because everyone works here. More work or less work—everyone works in Thailand. Our achievements may be much more positive than theirs. But we still remain backward because other functions in their society seem to worker harder or act more business-like than us. They are very strict in doing any business. They will take advantage of anyone on anything whenever an opportunity arises. Therefore, our principle of losing-for-gaining will not work in their system. However, in Thailand, the losing-for- gaining system has been effectively employed, including in the royally initiated projects. The reason I raise my projects as an example does not mean that I am boasting. I only want to explain why they are carried out this way. Some people say that the royally initiated projects are operated in a manner that is not in accordance with the textbook principle. Yes, not with the textbook principle. For example, if we want to carry out a project without calling for a bidding, the cost of the project may seem to be more expensive. For example, the project may cost 10 million baht without bidding. But it may come down to eight million after careful consideration is given to it before the bidding is called. If we proceed with the project, we may end up paying 10 million baht. However, after the project is finished and becomes fruitful, the people will start earning profits in the end. That means that the government does not have to provide welfare to them anymore because they can now make money and some profits already. We do not have to give them clothes ands food anymore. Millions or hundreds of thousands of baht will then be saved. We do not have to spend money on suppressing people who earn their living illegally. People who have no money and encounter difficulties always resort to stealing or travel to other places to earn their living. They may break the law along the way. Even if they do not commit such acts, they have to spend money for traveling. If these people have jobs available in their own locality, they do not have to spend money on such unnecessary things. This means that we only profit if we begin implementing the 10-million baht project right away. If the project is finished within a year, we may lose two million baht. Some may say that the project is expensive. No, it is less expensive. Of course, if the project is worth some 800 million baht, we may have to call for bidding. We may have to be more careful in laying out the plan or checking on the cost. We may have to postpone the project if it cannot be carried out this year. However, if we keep on postponing the eight-million project, economic conditions may change; for example, the price of construction cement may increase. Therefore, the eight-million baht project cannot be executed next year. It may need nine million baht from the budget. However, if the budget is cut, the project will be affected and cannot be carried out in the coming year. The cost may increase to 10 million baht. Even if it cannot be carried out at all in the third year, profit which should have been gained in the past three years will not be forthcoming. In the end, we may have to spend 10 million baht for the project but the people would lose three years. If we decided to incur the loss from the beginning, we might be able to earn profit sooner. This is possible in economics terms. It can be proved that the losing-for-gaining principle is workable.

That was the sort of thing that I explained to the visitor. Another question concerned who owned the money that was expended. I told him that if it was money from the national budget the users would face investigation and penalty. But if it was donated money, like that of the Chai Phatthana Foundation that the prime minister mentioned, it would then be all right. The money that was spent was the donors' money, but the foundation's achievement was that it made a profit. As profit, it was not that the donors' bank accounts would grow, but the merit from the donation would make them wealthier and they would donate again next year. This was another point that I explained to the visitor.

Before leaving, most guests would normally shake hands with their hosts. But this guest was an exception. He shook hands in a manner of great appreciation. He put up his both hands to grasp both hands of the host. According to foreign tradition, this is a gesture of deep appreciation. He said that he would use this advice as a guideline for his conduct all through his life. This means he deeply appreciated the advice, which in itself does not quite comply with academic principle. If we do something good in a way that may not comply with academic principles and our action is accepted with a sense of unity and compassion, we will be able to survive forever.

This is an issue which I probably should not speak about. In any country's national administration, the administrators are given a mandate to manage various activities. If every 55 million citizens speak at the same time about what each wants, no sense could be made. It already is incomprehensible when 10 people speak at the same time. Moreover, the 55 million people may not hear what the problems are. They could only make incomprehensible noise. That is why there have to be representatives of the people, which according to administrative principles are members of parliament, which is the topic of current excitement. If the representatives of the people are genuine representatives, then the 55 million people really know these representatives and can say that the representatives speak on their behalf. If this scenario materializes, there is no problem. But most of the time it does not happen that way, because the methods are wrong. There are even different methods used in different countries to allow the citizens to express their opinions. For example, there are 2,000 people here, but the reported number is 8,000. If all of them express their views at the same time, their views cannot be heard clearly. They will have to assign certain people to represent them. As I said earlier, the prime minister had just rescued me, because if everyone here has to say what he wants and at the same time, it would not make sense and would take until tomorrow to finish. So the prime minister has been given the representative role. Some people could say this is not right because they have their own views and might question who the prime minister is to speak on their behalf. The prime minister is not the most senior person here, many people are older than he. If academic degrees are taken into account, some may have higher academic degrees than the prime minister. There is no solution. It just has to be accepted that the prime minister has been given the role as representative speaker. So this is the solution and things has gone smoothly and his statement is warm. The prime minister's statement can be summed up as the wish of the people gathering here. The person to whom the statement was delivered is impressed, and that is sufficient. Thus the event has proceeded to its completion without any problem.

If a regulation were to be made to the effect that the speaker must possess certain qualifications, there would be no ending—there is no way to agree on who would be the speaker delivering the greetings. Then each of the 800 people would have to line up to deliver his greetings. Or, if each of the 294 delegations, say 300 delegations, deliver its greetings it would take two hours, and I do not want to calculate how long it would take for the 8,000 people. It would take several days just to make the formal beginning and concluding remarks, not taking into account my thank-you remarks. And in the end, no one would be satisfied because he would feel that the king is aloof because all he would say is thank you. That would not be good for me. That is why we set this regulation of giving the honor of speaking to the prime minister. I wonder if this regulation is democratic.

This is what the regulation is—having the prime minister deliver the greetings. The regulation was different in the past. In the era of other prime ministers, the speaker was chosen from senior or revered individuals. That is just form. On this issue, the parliament president could disagree by pointing out that the prime minister has only 40 cabinet members under his supervision, while he has hundreds so should be the person to deliver the greetings message. The supreme commander could also disagree, saying he controls the three branches of the armed forces totaling tens of thousand of soldiers. There would be arguments over who should deliver the greetings.

In light of this, the current practice is acceptable. If a change is desired for next year, that can be achieved. The people involved can discuss it and agree to make a change. Every principle can be changed. Things cannot be permanently fixed. Changes are possible but there should be no quarrels that result in bloodshed. Changes by taking turns are also possible, giving this person the chance this year and another person the year after. As in the case of Switzerland, the presidency is changed every year and that country is relatively peaceful. Or in the case of Malaysia, the paramount ruler is changed every four to five years. It depends on the rules that are set. Whether or not the rules of other countries are good I do not know. I do not know whose rules are good. The U.S. President is changed every four years. In the United States an election is held every four years in a boisterous manner. Whether or not it is right or fair we do not know. The candidates are vigorously criticized this or that way. They have their procedures. The United States elects its President, but there was never a coup. There were unelected Presidents and Vice Presidents. There were changes that took place which did not comply with the rules on election of a President. Changes are possible, but there must not be quarrels that cause bloodshed. The reason I utter this statement is because at present we have a headache on the question of to change or not to change, to adopt or not to adopt, and to adopt and then change or to change and then adopt. But that thing in question should be workable. If it is perfectly workable, it should be continued and maintained. But if is not workable, it can be changed. There are ways it can be changed. This is because an opportunity for change is open. That is, fair opportunities are open to make changes not too difficult to achieve. That is, if some changes that are rational can be made, providing that they are not made every day, it is a sign of life, and Thailand has life. Changes of rules are possible. Changes that are made by the people who are rational—that is, their discussion incorporates genuine technical principles that are superior to those written in textbooks—will preclude any problem. It is not that changes that are made will be permanent. Changes can be made again when a new situation warrants without having to resort to serious quarrel that would damage the country and drive it backward.

Thailand has progressed steadily a great deal at a pace that is not too fast or slow. The principle that I brought up yesterday which I did not say correctly and has to be corrected in length today must be applied. Only one word is changed—from observe unity to cherish unity. I ask that everyone understand that I made a mistake on one word yesterday. It was written clearly in the text that the Thai people cherish unity, but I slipped and read instead: observe unity. Actually, it is not wrong to say observe unity, but to say cherish unity has more profound meaning. By now I believe that you all deeply understand the meaning and you will cherish unity and have the correct understanding of: Our loss is our gain. This is the homework for this year.

The homework given two years ago took two years to be realized in depth. Today is Environment Day. Maybe two years from now 5 December will be a day of love and unity and a day to cherish unity. Two years are not that long to go to designate it a day of unity. But in the meantime, practice unity until that day arrives. If unity is not practised today, there is no tomorrow.

May all of you be endowed by with physical and mental strength in order to think about the ideas I gave you today. We will meet again on the day of cherished unity in 1993.

King Addresses Senior Officials on Birthday

BK0512162691 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1430 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Address by King Phumiphon Adunyadet at formal ceremony to receive senior governmental officials and members of the royal family in the Grand Palace in Bangkok on 5 December, the king's birthday—recorded]

[Text] I thank you for gathering here on my birthday to convey your greetings filled with good wishes. May all of you accept my sincere greetings as well.

Our predecessors preserved the nation with their ability, wisdom, courage, sacrifice, and goodness. At certain times there was peace and progress, while at times there was suffering and crises. In any event, we have enjoyed all forms of freedom and progress to this day. This serves to remind Thai people in all sectors that they must have solidarity in order to further consolidate their mental and physical ability and goodness and must earnestly step up their activities with an honest mind so that the activities in all fields will advance and complement each other. Therefore, regardless of your minor or major activities, please consider national interests to be most important, and use firm minds and clear and unbiased intellects to thoroughly consider every issue from all angles so that all your activities will be accomplished fully, benefiting the country's progress and security.

May the power of the three gems and all sacred things revered by the Thai people always protect everyone of you so that you will enjoy physical, mental, and intellectual strength to carry out the country's work in all fields to its optimum result, in order that the country will overcome all obstacles and danger and achieve developmental success and freedom, which are the supreme goals of all of us.

Officials Support King's Call for 'Compromise'

BK0612012791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Dec 91 p 1

[Text] His Majesty the King's call for compromise between those supporting and opposing the draft Constitution was perfectly clear and should be upheld, according to senior government officials yesterday.

Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchupan said he felt deeply grateful to His Majesty for passing on his wisdom to the people.

"This royal reminder must be thoroughly considered by every person," he said.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said the King's message to birthday well-wishers Wednesday night was "crystal clear".

National Legislative Assembly chairman Ukrit Mongkonnawin said he fully supported the King's comments.

"The reminder is invaluable and people from all walks of life must take it to their heart," he said.

Mr Ukrit said His Majesty's comments were expected to ease rising tension over the draft Constitution.

The NLA chairman said he was confident the assembly members would join tomorrow's meeting for a final reading of the draft.

He said the outcome of the vote would depend on the members' own discretion, and the amendments to the draft after its promulgation would depend on parliamentarians.

If all share the view it should be amended, then it can be amended. "But while we have no other alternative, we should accept the present draft for the time being," he said.

First Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Phaibun Hongsinlak said opponents of the draft Constitution should understand the King's message.

He said the military had no wish to see violence in the lead-up to the final draft reading and it was doing its best to bring the draft opponents to an understanding of the situation.

Lt-Gen Phaibun assured the military would not resort to violence in suppressing opposition to the draft charter.

Assistant Army Chief Gen Chatchom Kanlong said he was confident the NLA would approve the draft tomorrow.

He said he was confident the NLA members were aware of their responsibility and could judge for themselves whether the present draft was acceptable.

Former Premier on King's Address, Constitution

BK0612084591 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 6 Dec 91 p 2

[Text] Former Prime Minister M.R. Khukrit Pramot has said that the king's address urging Thai people to observe unity is nothing out of the ordinary because the king loves his subjects. The king's remarks are nothing unique. Asked by reporters about the address being interpreted as having a link with the draft constitution, Khukrit said: "I am not making any interpretation. I do not want to be damned; don't meddle with high things." Asked whether the conflict over the draft constitution will eventually end, Khukrit said: "Your mind is not at peace. Who were you arguing with to come to ask me about a conflict? I am happy at home with my dog. Your questions about conflicts are choking me."

Party Leaders To Continue Opposing Constitution

BK0612084791 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 6 Dec 91 p 2

[Text] Major General Chamlong Simuang, the Phalang Tham Party leader, has said revision to the draft constitution should be made before the third reading because any revision will be difficult to achieve once it is promulgated. He pointed out that it is difficult to obtain a consensus of members of parliament after election and that no one could guarantee that the MPs would be able to amend the constitution. He assured that if the draft constitution is rejected in the third reading, the election will not be delayed because the interim constitution clearly stipulated that the election must be held by April 1992.

Chamlong said: "Whether or not the draft constitution could be revised depends on how effective people are in persuading National Legislative Assembly [NLA] members to reject the draft in the third reading. Active campaigns by the people should convince NLA members to listen to their wish." He added that his party will continue to actively oppose the draft constitution.

Chamlong said it is inappropriate to link the king's address to the draft constitution issue. He pointed out that his party will not resort to violence in its opposition to the draft constitution and that it has always employed peaceful means. Moreover, the king has urged an observation of unity and said that whatever is not right can be changed peacefully, Chamlong noted. He said if the draft constitution passes the third reading his party will coordinate with other parties to try to amend it in parliament.

Meanwhile, Bunchu Rotchanasathian, the Solidarity Party leader, said his party will continue to mobilize public opinion in order to achieve a democratic constitution. The party activities will not be violent or contradict the king's wishes, but will merely demonstrate the party's opposition to the constitution.

Anti-Charter Activists To Present Petition

BK0612013591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Dec 91 pp A1, A2

[Text] Political parties, student activists, academics and other organizations in the pro-democracy movement today will send a petition signed by nearly one million people to the National Assembly to dramatize their call for rejection of the draft constitution tomorrow.

The Student Federation of Thailand (SFT) will also hold a rally at the Laan Poh square on Thammasat University campus, with representatives from political parties in the movement taking part.

But the SFT called off a plan to hold rally at Parliament to avoid confrontation with groups advocating the passage of the draft.

Gothom Aya, deputy chairman of the Campaign for Popular Democracy committee, said the parties, the students and academics would meet this morning to combine their lists of signatures at the Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkon University.

About 800,000 people have given their signatures to the various campaign groups and parties, informed sources said. The break-down by political parties was about 30,000 by the Phalang Tham Party, about 12,000 by Solidarity and about 200,000 by the New Aspiration Party [NAP].

However, NAP secretary general Sqn Ldr Prasong Sunsiri said the list was still incomplete because his party was waiting for the signatures gathered by party offcials in the South.

The Democrat Party distributed about one million copies of its statements on the campaign without seeking any signatures.

The SFT collected the signatures of about 500,000 people.

Gothom said the groups would send their representatives to Parliament at about 2 pm to submit the petition and the list of the opponents to the draft charter.

After that, the SFT would move to Laan Poh to organize a rally, he said.

Gothom said that the SFT, members of his committee and some political parties had agreed not to hold a demonstration in front of Parliament tomorrow when the draft will be voted on in the National Assembly.

"Demonstrating at Parliament may backfire because we could confront rival mobs and this may lead to violence," Gothom said.

Meanwhile, Supatra Hasuwankit, the president of Chualongkon University's Student Organization and a member of the SFT, said the umbrella student organization would maintain its position against the final passage of the draft.

"Our position is for the National Assembly to remove the undemocratic parts from the draft after rejecting it, then use the changed one for deliberation," he said.

But he vowed that the SFT would take His Majesty the King's advice for national unity and avoidance of boodshed in the highest respect.

"We will fight through peaceful means and willa void causing a national split," he said.

But Supatra called on "the powers that be" to avoid brining in organized mobs to clash with anti-chartger demonstrators.

He said the other side should also take into account His Majesty's request.

SFT Secretary General Parinya The Wanaruemitkun said the protestors would hold a merit making ceremony at Laan Poh in the morning, and then about 20 students and academics would begin a hunger strike.

Provincial Pro-Charter Rallies Said Orchestrated

BK0612015591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Dec 91 p A1

[Text] When 50,000 people rallied at Sanam Luang on Nov 19 to display their opposition to what is widely regarded as a pro-military charter draft, the generals downplayed the protest as being dominated by "demonstrators for hire".

At one point Supreme Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun said tongue-in-cheek of the pro-democracy's movement's signature campaign: "Soldiers can provide hundreds of thousands of signatures."

He and other senior military officials, however, have avoided making comments on a new development that involved well-organized protests by villagers voicing support for the draft constitution.

The pro-charter rallies took place in Ubon Ratchathani and some other smaller provinces. Quiet, peaceful and noticeably orderly protesters carried banners demanding that the charter draft be passed in its final reading tomorrow so that a general election can be held as soon as possible.

Army-run TV Channels 5 and 7, which have shunned news about anti-military activities, reported on the Ubon Ratchathani demonstration.

Pratha Chatwongwan, who leads an association of community leaders in the Northeast, claimed the Interior Ministry had forced village headmen and kammans [chief of the village headmen] to mobilize villagers of the pro-charter demonstrations.

His accusation was backed by a letter sent by an assistant district chief of Ubon Ratchathanis' Muang district to community leaders to request their cooperation in gathering villagers' signatures to support the draft charter.

Permanent Secretary for the Interior Anan Anantakun angrily denied the accusations.

"The villagers did it because they wanted to do it," Anan said.

Ubon Ratchathani Governor Saisit Phonkaeo denied involvement in the pro-charter signature campaign.

"There have been activities supporting the charter draft," he said. "But how people are making their moves, I don't know."

A ministry source, however, charged that some provincial governors had received instructions to "keep a close watch" on anti-charter activities in their provinces and, if possible, stir up support for the constitution draft.

Deputy Premier Supports Election Commission Idea

BK0612014591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Dec 91 p A2

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan yesterday supported the formation of a national watchdog commission to monitor the general election, saying he would not trust any report from the Interior Ministry that said the election was clean.

"I find it hard to believe that the Interior Ministry, which controls the election process, should be the one to say that the election is clean. But if we have this national commission, it would act as a centre where people could bring their case and make themselves heard, otherwise the people might not have any place to go to," he said.

His comments came amid strong speculation that the draft constitution would sail through its third reading tomorrow. Approval of the charter would mark the start of a 120-day countdown to the general election.

Michai and the other two deputy prime ministers were ordered by Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun to help in the formation of a national commission intended to monitor the political neutrality of government officials in the election. The suggested composition and functions of the commission will be sent to the Cabinet for finalf approval, possibly after Anan returns from his trip to the United States later this month. Non-partisan people would be allowed to participate in the commission to provide observations independent of those of government officials.

Michai also personally suggested that the national commission should be composed of political activists, students and academics acceptable to the public.

He said, however, that the commission will not be empowered to oversee the election, but would play only a passive role by accepting complaints about political malpractices then pass them on to the Interior Ministry for further investigation and prosecution.

"The commission would still retain the right to join any Interior Ministry investigation party in their investigation as the result of the complaints," he said.

He said it was not necessary to amend the election law as earlier proposed by the Interior Ministry to give the commission legal power.

"I don't think that would be necessary because the commission would not oversee the election process itself," he said.

Meanwhile, Local Administration Department Director Chuwong Chayabut said the department would seek an additional Bt [bhat] 244 million in funds from the government to continue its programme to increase democratic awareness throughout the country.

The request would be made in January to provide funds needed to finance the programme until the general election was held.

In April, the Interior Ministry had proposed a Bt1 billion national programme to send teams of local government officials to help raise democratic awarness among the Thai people. The programme was eventually launched after its budget was scaled down to Bt360 million by the government which believed it would not produce sufficient result to warrant such a large expenditure.

Chuwong, however, said the programme has produced a satisfactory result, so much so that the department would propose that more funds be granted to continue it.

"We did not promise the programme would totally prevent vote-buying. But as a whole, it will produce some results when the election comes. And if we compare it with other government projects, I think the total programme would eventually warrant the additional budget," he said.

Chuwong also downplayed speculation that the programme's team, each comprising a local community leader, a teacher, a village scout and village headman, might use the programme to support particular political candidates.

He said the department was preparing a plan to impose stricter controls on the roles of local government officials, including district chiefs, to ensure the election would be carried out as cleanly as possible.

In addition, the department welcomed the Cabinet decision to allow nonpartisan representatives into the proposed national watchdog commission. But Chuwong said he was still uncertain what role the commission would play apart from accepting complaints about poll-rigging and sending them to the presecutor general's department for action.

"I am not sure whether the commission would also oversee political trickery (that arises) while politicians are campaigning. The only certain part is that the commission would be a receptor of Poll-rigging (allegations) and pass them on to the prosecutor general's department who would file them with the court" he said.

At last month's Cabinet meeting Anan suggested a national commission be set up to ensure political neutrality among government officials in the election. His idea was approved by Cabinet, and the deputy prime ministers, with the co-operation of the Interior Ministry and the Local Administration Department, are working on a proposal for Cabinet consideration.

Chuwong said the Local Administration Department expected to present the revised draft election bill to Cabinet again on Dec 10. The new bill, he said, would compel government officials to send all election complaints to the prosecutor general's department within seven days.

Health Ministry Appoints Patent Bill Impact Team

BK0612033191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Dec 91 p 7

[Text] The Public Health Ministry has appointed a special team to push for a reduction in the impact on local drugs consumers from the Patent Bill.

A National Legislative Assembly committee is currently screening the bill.

Ministry sources said the team led by Food And Drug Administration Secretary-General Dr. Morakot Konkasem would try to convince the scrutiny committee to make last-minute changes to help protect the average drug consumer.

The Public Health Ministry has sought the committee's approval to make four major changes to the Patent Bill.

It has insisted that there be a four-year moratorium, not 180 days as specified by the draft, before the bill regulations take effect.

The protection period for patented drugs should also be reduced from 20 years to either 15 or 17 years.

The ministry also proposed that a Patent Board be established under the bill with the power of prosecution in order to stop monopolies and exorbitant pricing.

New drugs from overseas should be registered in Thailand within 12 months, not 18 months, of their manufacture in order to qualify for patent protection.

The sources said the team was expected to appear before the NLA scrutiny committee next Thursday to explain the changes.

Police Official Defends Shoot-to-Kill Policy

BK0612041191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 5 Dec 91 p A2

[Text] An assistant police director general said yesterday that police were doing the right thing in shooting dead criminal suspects who resisted the attempts to arrest them.

Pol Lt Gen Bunthin Wongrakmit said polcie recieved no complaints after having killed the armed suspects during the attempts to arrest them so "we are convinced that we have done the right thing and killed the right people".

Bunthin was commenting on a recent series of killings by police of criminal suspects in Bangkok and its neighbouring provinces. About 10 people, most of them suspected gunmen and car thieves, were shot and killed by police last month.

Bunthin, who was given the post of assistant police chief two months ago, admitted that when he was Provincial Police Bureau 2 commissioner he had always killed criminal suspects during the arrests if "we were sure that they were underworld figures".

"We would not arrest them alive but would resort to violent measures if we had learnt that they were threatening the public safety," Bunthin said.

The assistant police chief said he believed that the violent and drastic measure was the only effective way to deter criminals from committing crimes.

"I worked in the northeastern region for 37 years and always used the drastic measure. And it worked. You can see that no influential people or crime bosses are left in the Northeast," Bunthin said. The Police Sureau 2 is in charge of the region.

Bunthin said it was the policy of the provincial Police Bureau 2 to "drastically suppress" criminal suspects who police believed would not abandon their criminal activities.

"They would threaten the safety of innocent people if we let them live on," Bunthin said.

The asistant police chief said he was certain that "99.99 per cent" of the public was satisfied with his policy to deal harshly with criminal suspects because "I never received complaints (after killing the suspects)".

Foreign Minister on Recall of Consul to Malaysia

BK0612132091 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] Today, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin spoke to reporters about the Malaysian Government's request for replacement of Karun Richuyothin, the Thai consul general to Kota Bahru on charges of interference in Malaysian internal affairs. Asa said the Foreign Ministry has recalled Karun for explanation, adding that he was confident that the consul general was innocent because the Foreign Ministry had no policy of encouraging Thai consuls, ambassadors, or government officials abroad to interfere in the internal affairs of the host countries to avoid negative impact on bilateral relations. He noted that he was considering a promotion to a new post for Karun in December. Karun was the consul general in Kota Baru for one year and seven months and performed very effectively, Asa said.

Asked if the recall of Karun would imply appeasement for Malaysia's request, the foreign minister said he did not see it that way and noted that he had received assurances from Karun that he had been carrying out his duties fully. The recall would avoid undesirable consequences in bilateral relations. Besides, Karun's term in Malaysia was nearly completed anyway.

Cultural Agreement Signed With Turkey 6 Dec

BK0612121091 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] At 1400 today, a ceremony on the signing of cultural agreement between Thailand and Turkey, represented by Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and the Turkish ambassador, was held at the Foreign Ministry meeting hall. The agreement is a master program describing cooperation and exchanges in the cultural, education, mass media, youth, sports, art, archaeological, and cultural heritage protection fields.

Thailand and Turkey established diplomatic relations on 12 May 1958. In addition to exchange of visits by senior officials of the two countries in the governmental and private sectors, the two countries have several bilateral agreements, such as the trade, air service, and economic and technical accords.

Japan To Provide Aid for River Water Conservation

BK0612042991 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] The Government of Japan is to provide grant aid to the Department of Public Works to enable it to effectively monitor the conditions of the lower part of the Chao Phraya River.

Director General of the Department of Public Works Niyom Niyamanuson says that in line with the government's policy to fight against worsening water pollution in the Chao Phraya River, the department has asked for grant aid from the Japanese Government and the Japanese Government agreed to provide at least 50 million baht for the project at the beginning.

The assistance will be used for conducting survey which will last 21 months starting next March.

The department is mapping out the framework for the project. Mr. Niyom adds pointing out that provinces targeted for the project are Chainat, Sing Buri, Ang Thong, Lop Buri, Nonthaburi, Ayutthaya, and Pathum Thani.

Vietnam

Deputy Foreign Minister on Talks With U.S.

BK0612025891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0237 GMT 6 Dec 91

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Text] Hanoi, Dec 6 (AFP)—Vietnamese and U.S. experts will hold a series of meetings starting this month to tackle the remaining obstacles to normal relations between the two countries, Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai said.

The talks on missing U.S. servicemen and U.S. humanitarian aid to Vietnam are some of the specific steps toward normalization Mai said he agreed upon with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon at talks November 21-22 in New York.

Mai would not predict how long the normalization process might take, saying that it could be influenced by emotions surrounding the missing-in-action (MIA) issue, U.S. election-year politics or the unpredictable situation in Cambodia.

Mai, in an interview Thursday with AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE], said U.S. President George Bush's special envoy John Vessey would visit Hanoi in the second half of December to follow up on the implementation of an agreement he reached in September on U.S.-Vietnamese cooperation in accounting for MIAs.

U.S. experts will visit around the same time to discuss details of the agreement, including the request of U.S. researchers in Vietnam for helicopters to respond to reported sightings of possible American MIAs.

"We know the need of the American government to convince the American people that there are no living prisoners and that we are doing all we can to cooperate" in accounting for the 1,700 Americans who went missing in Vietnam during the war, Mai said.

"But they should also know that the Vietnamese have concern for their security."

He said another meeting, this time between U.S., Vietnamese and Laotian experts, would take place in Vientiane in late December or early January to discuss modalities for searches along the rugged Vietnamese-Laotian border, where a large number of American aviators crashed.

In January, talks will be held in Hanoi on Vietnam's request for humanitarian aid for war victims, Mai said.

The United States this year pledged one million dollars for an artificial limb program in its first direct aid to Hanoi, but Mai said the money had not yet been delivered "for bureaucratic reasons."

The experts will report back to a working group chaired by Vietnam's ambassador to the United Nations, Trinh Xuan Lang, and U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Kenneth Quinn.

Mai said he would meet with Solomon periodically to review the progress, but no date for their next round of talks has been set.

During their New York talks, Solomon asked for a meeting within two months in New York to discuss claims on diplomatic property—such as the former U.S. Embassy in Saigon—but Mai said Vietnam needed more time to prepare.

Mai, meanwhile, told Solomon a meeting should be held to discuss some form of consular arrangements, explaining that at least 2,000 Americans were expected to visit southern Vietnam in group tours during February alone.

Washington lifted its ban on organized tours to Vietnam following the October 23 Cambodian peace treaty between the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government and the guerrilla resistance.

This conditional step-by-step advance is spelled out in a U.S. "roadmap" toward normalization, a document Vietnam neither accepts nor rejects.

"They put their American roadmap on the table for negotiation, and we put our Vietnamese shortcuts on the table for negotiation," Mai said.

But he complained that U.S. insistence on linking the "political issue" of normalization to the "very emotional issue" of MIAs and to implementation of the Cambodian peace agreement could derail the process at any time.

"America is making the relations between Vietnam and the U.S. hostage to the activities of the Khmer Rouge," the Chinese-backed guerrilla faction most likely to upset the Cambodian peace process, he said.

He pointed out that a number of non-communist Asian countries have upgraded their relations with Hanoi following the Cambodia peace treaty, while many U.S. businessmen—notably oilmen—are eager to work in Vietnam.

Mai also implicitly confirmed that the approximately 100 re-education camp inmates held since 1975 for their roles in supporting the U.S.-backed Saigon government would all be free soon, saying it was "high time" that they were released.

"There is no logic to their policy from any point of view," Mai said of the continued U.S. hesitation to normalize relations and lift the economic embargo against Hanoi.

"We understand that there are emotions in the United States over Vietnam. But there are emotions in Vietnam too—maybe 10 times more because the war was fought on our soil. But we know how to control our emotions in order to overcome the past," he said.

Central Committee Second Party Plenum Communique

BK0512165591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 5 Dec 92

[Communique of the Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee's 25 November-4 December second plenum]

[Text] The second plenum of the Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee was held from 25 November-4 December 1991 in Hanoi.

The plenum approved various guiding concepts for work to be done and those approaches for achieving socioeconomic stability and development during the years 1992-95; various fundamental views and orientations concerning the constitutional amendments, the further improvement of the state apparatus, and the renovation of party leadership over the state; and the activity program for the entire term of office of the Seventh CPV Central Committee and its operational and advisory procedures.

Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi delivered the opening and closing speeches at the plenum.

1. As for the task of and the approaches for achieving socioeconomic stability and development in the years 1992-95, the plenum noted that in 1991, despite being confronted with numerous acute difficulties, our national economy continued to undergo some positive changes.

Given the challenging situation in 1991, our successful maintenance of political stability and prevention of major economic upheaval is a fruitful achievement of great significance. This shows that our party—the initiator of the renovation now being carried out in a way suitable to our country's realistic conditions—is fully capable of leading our country to tide itself over the socioeconomic crisis and of gradually making the people prosperous and the country powerful along the socialist path.

However, the socioeconomic situation has continued to develop in a very complex—and even very acute in certain aspects—fashion. The state's macro-management has displayed many shortcomings and loopholes. Its financial and monetary management mechanism is fraught with deficiencies. Efforts to check the state of corruption, wastage, smuggling, and speculation have been less effective. The rearrangement of the state-run economy and the renovation of the collective economy are slow and there is a sluggishness in organizational rearrangement and in streamlining personnel staffings. The state of disorder and indiscipline is still serious.

The year 1992 and the ensuring years, though to be confronted with new difficulties, will bring new advantages. This is an extremely important juncture for our country.

To tide our country over the socioeconomic crisis and to achieve faster growth, we should continue to step up the renovation undertaking and the central task of this stage is to reestablish order in the economy; ameliorate all social relations; create the environment and conditions for vigorously developing our latent potential in manpower and wisdom, land and natural resources, capital and property for every family, for every collective, and for the entire society. At the same time, it is necessary to make full, effective use of all new capabilities in broadening external economic relations, expanding the market, attracting foreign capital and technologies, and securing a foothold in the world market.

In the years 1992-95, it will be necessary to carry out the following main tasks:

—Strive to dispel inflation, shape up a stable financial and monetary system, and create an environment for increased commodity production.

—Gradually increase the growth of socioeconomic activities and their results with priority to be given to developing those sectors, areas, and establishments that can bring fast results and create employment.

—Develop the source of strength of all economic components to achieve comprehensive agricultural growth, reclaim wastelands and bare hills, vigorously develop small- and medium-scale industrial establishments in urban and rural areas, step up exports, and expand support services.

—Concentrate the state's investment in building the socioeconomic infrastructure and a number of key projects.

—Stabilize and gradually improve the people's material and cultural life along with stepping up the practice of thrift and capital accumulation in the economy.

—Go ahead with implementing the law on health protection, the national health program for children, the family planning program for reducing the population growth rate, and other health programs.

—Make satisfactory use of existing forces and constantly improve the country's scientific and technological capabilities, and promptly introduce new technologies in production and management.

—Develop and improve the quality of education and training with attention to be paid to popularizing elementary education, broadening vocational and technical training, and fostering the contingent of economic management cadres and businessmen.

—Continue efforts to renovate and harmonize economic management mechanisms, bearing in mind the need to attach primary importance to the macro state management system and the state economic management apparatus.

—Take steps to restructure state apparatuses in terms of organization, operating procedures, and cadre assignment in a way suitable with the new mechanism. It is important to enhance the efficiency of state management and implement democracy while at the same time restoring discipline and order in accordance with the law.

—Oppose bureaucratism and corruption, consolidate political stability, firmly maintain security, strengthen national defense, and heighten vigilance.

—Take steps to renovate and enhance party leadership, revamp party organizations, and build pure, firm, and strong party installations so that they can stay close to the masses and win their trust.

—Work out plans to renovate the organization and operating procedures of mass societies and to gear their activities toward grass-roots establishments, mass organizations, and people of all walks of life.

—Have party organization echelons from the central down to grass-roots levels attach real importance to party-building activities and mass mobilization work.

1992 plays an important role in implementing the abovementioned tasks. It is imperative to make new progress in socioeconomic stabilization. In the coming years, it will be necessary to devote efforts to resolving five major issues relating to socioeconomic stabilization and development.

First, it is important to adopt key measures to stabilize the financial and monetary situations and to push back inflation. These include efforts to accelerate production to create balances between supply and demand, money and goods, imports and exports, and budget expenditures and revenues. It is necessary to abolish the system of giving state subisidies to business establishments, shift the operations of credit banks into actual business transactions, renovate the foreign exchange management mechanism, and ease the gold and foreign currency drain as well as prevent its recurrence.

Strong measures must be taken to renovate the budget allotment balancing method a step further and implement a uniform budget allotment system as well as a rational system of devolving managing authority to various levels when it comes to budget allotment managment.

Continued efforts are needed to perfect the price management mechanism.

Second, it is necessary to vigorously develop the potential of the various economic sectors. This is the most important measure to revive the country's latent strengths.

It is important to consolidate and develop the state economy in key areas and branches. Resolute measures must be taken against those establishments which no longer need to operate under state management.

Plans must be worked out to renovate existing cooperatives in the direction of respecting cooperative members' right of mastership while at the same time effecting changes to improve the efficiency of management boards. It is necessary to apply various forms of cooperativization, implement the policy of alloting land to peasant households on a permanent basis, create conditions for the individual and private economies to develop vigorously and according to the law.

Third, it is necessary to effectively expand external economic relations and formulate a marketing policy consistent with the new situation. It is important to adopt incentive policies aimed at strongly promoting exports while at the same time exerting close control on imports.

Continued efforts are needed to perfect the various foreign investment policies to create favorable conditions for attracting foreign investment in terms of capital and technology.

Fourth, in 1992, steps must be taken to resolve the unemployment problem and adjust the wage system, regarding these as the most urgent social problems that need to be resolved in order to effect changes on the economic, social, and political fronts.

As for other social issues, particularly educational, public healthcare, and cultural problems, marked progress must also be made to create a new atmosphere in social life, thus making an important contribution to promoting economic development.

Fifth, it is important to adjust the state management system in accordance with the constitutional amendments, purify the state management mechanism, enhance the role of law enforcement agencies, establish discipline and order on the socioeconomic front, fight against corruption and smuggling, and oppose all attempts to coerce and bully the people.

2. Regarding the amendment of the 1980 Constitution, the reform of the state's mechanism, and the renewal of the party leadership over the state, the Second Plenum of the Party Central Committee held that in the past we have gradually renewed the political system, meeting the requirements of socioeconomic renovation. The current situation also requires and allows us to renew the political system in a more fundamental and systematic way, thus making the renovation process more synchronous and comprehensive.

At this stage of renovation we are changing the 1980 Constitution, partly reforming the state mechanism, and renewing the party leadership over the state. These are very important tasks and are also the great content of the renovation work of the political system set forth by the Seventh National Party Congress.

Amendment of the Constitution, reform of the state mechanism, and renewal of the party leadership over the state are aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the state's social management, building socialist democracy, and strengthening the socialist legislature, thus making the superstructure successfully develop its catalytic role to pave the way for socioeconomic development.

The renovation undertaking, generally speaking, and the reform of the state mechanism, in particular, are a process which must be executed positively after carefully calculating its steps to ensure that political stability is maintained and strengthened. The process must be firmly based on the creative application of Maxist-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh ideology, on the practical conditions of the country, and on experiences gained during the building of the Vietnamese Government in the last dozen years after taking into consideration the knowledge and advanced experiences in the world.

The revised Constitution affirms the target and path to socialism and reasserts the essential characteristics of our government as a government of people, by people, and for people. It uses the alliance of the working class with the peasants and intellectuals as the foundation of the leadership of the Communist Party.

The principle of democratic centralism is totally understood in the organizations and activities of the central and local governments. The Vietnamese Government is the unity of the three institutions—legislative, executive, and judiciary—with clear delineation of function and responsibility between them.

The revised Constitution regulates the fundamental rights and duties of citizens and confirms the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and mass organizations as a stable political foundation of the government. It also affirms the CPV leadership role over the state and society.

The plenum of the party Central Committee stressed that the renovation of party leadership over the state is the most important condition for carrying out the reformation of the state's mechanism and activities. Consequently, it will make the party leadership become better and more effective. At the same time, it will make the state's management more efficient and cause the people's rights of mastery to develop better.

Strengthening the party leadership and developing the effectiveness of the state are two sides of the same issue despite having different roles and functions which need to be clearly defined. But both the party and state are the means to implementing and developing the rights of mastery of the people, striving for the benefit of the people.

The amendment of the Constitution has a very important meaning. The party Central Committee requests all the party committees and members to actively take part with the public in discussing and contributing views to the draft constitution, which will be announced by the Committee for Constitutional Amendment. The party committees and members are to closely organize the discussions with a sense of real democracy.

The party Central Committee believes that the party, army, and public will develop the traditional love for the nation, socialism, and the rights of mastery over the country to successfully implement socioeconomic duties in 1992-1995 and to contribute their intelligence to the revised Constitution.

3. The second plenum of the party Central Committee approved the working plans and guidelines during its term. It also approved the working guidelines for Comrades Nguyen Van Linh, Pham Van Dong, and Vo Chi Cong, three advisers to the party Central Committee.

4. The second plenum of the party Central Committee elected Comrade Le Van Kien and Nguyen Thi Xuan My to be deputy directors of the Party Central Control Committee.

NHAN DAN on Implementing Plenum Resolution

BK0612071291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Dec 91

[NHAN DAN 6 December editorial: "Strive To Achieve Socioeconomic Stability and Development"]

[Text] To implement the resolution of the Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress, the recent second plenum of the seventh party Central Committee discussed and resolved a number of important issues. It also approved various guidelines on work and approaches for achieving socioeconomic stability and development for 1992-95; various fundamental views and orientations on constitutional amendments, the further improvement of the state apparatus, and the renovation of party leadership over the state. These are issues of keen interest to our party, state, and people in the immediate future.

Through our general observation, we realize that since 1991 we have confronted difficulties and ordeals in our socioeconomic situation that were beyond our expectations. We have also unexpectedly experienced a lot of passive phenomena. However, our national economy have continued to undergo some positive changes. These changes and the renovation achievements of the past few years have resulted in the freeing of exports and the establishment of market relations, thus creating new industries for the multisectoral economy including the production of grain, and consumer and export goods. As a result, the economy has spontaneously created the capability to overcome the problems caused by the sudden surge of exports, foreign income inflow, and serious natural calamities.

The party Central Committee plenum's communique stressed: Given the challenges of 1991, our successful maintenance of political stability and prevention of a major economic upheaval is a significant and fruitful achievement. This shows that our party, who initiated the current renovation consistent with our country's realities, is fully capable of leading the people to overcome the socioeconomic crisis and to gradually make them and the country properous and powerful along the socialist path.

While asserting our achievements, we should realize that the socioeconomic situation has continued to develop in a complex manner and acutely in certain aspects. Noteworthy is that many tasks have not been fulfilled and that there are some serious shortcomings, especially in the organization of production, micro and macromanagement of the economy, the maintenance of social order and discipline, and in running the state apparatus.

In 1992 and the subsequent years, we will confront new difficulties and ordeals, while gaining new advantages and capabilities to develop and implement the renovation. This is an extremely important juncture for our country. Our efforts in 1992 and the ensuing years should be concentrated on extricating the country from the socioeconomic crisis and quickening the pace of development.

The party Central Committee has set forth orientations for the continued acceleration of the renovation. The most important tasks of this stage are to reestablish economic order and ameliorate all social relations. In addition, we must also create the environment and conditions to develop our potentialities in manpower and wisdom, land and natural resources, capital and property of every family, the collective, and the entire society. At the same time, it is necessary to make optimum use of all new capabilities in broadening foreign economic relations, expanding the market, attracting foreign capital and technologies, and securing a foothold in the world market.

The party Central Committee has also set forth measures to stabilize the financial and monetary situation to reduce inflation, develop the various economic sectors to revive the country's latent strengths, and to effectively expand external economic relations and formulate a marketing policy consistent with the new situation. It is also necessary to take further steps in 1992 to resolve unemployment and adjust the wage system, improve the state management system in accordance with the constitutional amendments, purify the state apparatus, establish discipline and order in society, fight against corruption and smuggling, and oppose attempts to coerce and bully the people.

Our state will define measures to resolve pressing socioeconomic issues as well as tasks for socioeconomic stabilization and development during 1992-95. The draft constitutional amendments will be made public by the constitutional amendment committee for discussions by the people in the days ahead.

It is certain that the guidelines and concepts set by the party Central Committee will lead all echelons, sectors, each party member, and all of us to act correctly.

With our impetus and strongest determination, we will strive to achieve new changes and ensure clear progress in carrying out socioeconomic development in 1992 and the subsequent years, thereby triumphantly implementing the resolution of the Seventh CPV Congress.

National Assembly Office Holds Press Conference

BK0612123191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Text] This afternoon in Hanoi, the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers held a press conference on the 10th session of the Eighth National Assembly.

Chairing the conference, Comrade Vu Mao, director of the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers stated that the 10th session of the Eighth National Assembly will be held in Hanoi from 9 to 26 December 1991. During the session, the National Assembly will decide on the socioeconomic orientations and tasks in the years 1991-1995 and in 1992. It will examine the major issues of the implementation of the 1991 National Budget, give a decision on the 1992 National Budget, and approve the closing balance of the 1990 National Budget.

Regarding the legal work, the National Assembly will examine and pass two draft bills: the Civil Aviation Law of Vietnam and the amendment of the Import-Export Tax Law.

During the session, the National Assembly will also hear and discuss reports and reviews on the activities of the National Assembly, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, the Supreme People's Court, and the Supreme People's Organ of Control during the term of the Eighth National Assembly from 1987 to 1991.

At this afternoon's press conference, Comrade Vu Mao answered pressmen's questions relating to issues of the National Assembly session such as the anti-corruption and anti smuggling work, price and money control, dealing with negative phenomena in the forestry sector, and so forth.

Hanoi Supports DPRK Stand on Denuclearization

BK0512163191 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec.5—Vietnam supports the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Government's stance on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula as enunciated in the Nov. 25, 1991 statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry, and considers this to be a contribution to easing the situation in the world in general and on the Korean peninsula in particular.

So said a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry in an interview with VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY today.

The spokesman further said that nuclear control on the Korean peninsula must be done in an equitable reasonable manner.

VNA Notes Sihanouk Decision To Postpone Visit

BK0512174691 Hanoi VNA in English 1620 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 5—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said that he had decided to postpone his visit to Vietnam scheduled for later this December.

The prince who heads the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia returned in Phnom Penh today afternoon after attending the SNC meeting in Phatthaya, Thailand, on December 4.

In his statement at the airport Prince Sihanouk also laid emphasis on the need to ensure security for all SNC members so that the SNC could operate in Phnom Penh.

Vo Van Kiet Holds Talks With Cambodian Envoy

BK0612085591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] On 5 December, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet received and held cordial talks with Uch Borith, ambassador of the State of Cambodia to Vietnam, who paid a courtesy call on him.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet warmly welcomed Ambassador Uch Borith and expressed the hope that during his term of office, the ambassador would positively contribute to consolidating and developing the long-standing friendship and solidarity between the two nations.

On this occasion, the Council of Ministers' chairman reaffirmed Vietnam's stance on respecting agreements reached between members of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNC] on questions related to Cambodia's sovereignty and the implementation of the

Paris peace accord on Cambodia, especially the provisions concerning the UN role in Cambodia during the transition period, which must conform to the UN Charter and ensure respect for the sovereignty of Cambodia and its neighboring countries.

Ambassador Uch Borith thanked Chairman Vo Van Kiet for receiving him and briefed the chairman on the situation in Cambodia following the signing of the Paris peace accord. The ambassador solemnly conveyed the Cambodian state leaders' sincere and profound gratitute to the chairman and the Vietnamese Government and people for their loyal friendship and the great sacrifices they had made for the revival of the Cambodian people.

The ambassador pledged that he would do his best to contribute to a satisfactory consolidation and development of the long-standing friendship and solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam.

New Ambassador to Cambodia Presents Credentials

Received by Sihanouk

BK0612032191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] On the evening of 28 November, Comrade Tran Huy Chuong, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, presented his credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, SNC chairman, at the Royal Khemarin Palace.

The credentials presentation ceremony took place very solemnly, beginning with a trooping of the color. The military band played the Vietnamese national anthem and an official song of the SNC. Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong reviewed the honor guard before entering Khemarin palace to present his credentials to Chairman Sihanouk.

Attending the ceremony, on the Cambodian side, was His Excellency Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia and SNC member. Following the ceremony, Prince Sihanouk cordially talked with Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong.

Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong conveyed to Prince Sihanouk the greetings and wishes of good health from Chairman Vo Chi Cong and other Vietnamese leaders.

Prince Sihanouk asked the ambassador to convey his thanks to Chairman Vo Chi Cong for promptly sending an extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to the SNC, and to also convey his greetings and wishes of good health to Chairman Vo Chi Cong and other Vietnamese leaders.

On this occasion, Prince Sihanouk recalled good memories and profound sentiments in the former relations full of favor and blessing between him and the Vietnamese leaders. Prince Sihanouk stressed that he formerly supported the Vietnamese people's just struggle and he will continue to support Vietnam's just cause. He also thanked Vietnam for helping Cambodia over the past years.

The prince expressed his desire to continually develop the relations of solidarity, friendship, peace, and fraternity with Vietnam. He stressed that these relations are important not only to both countries but also to regional peace and development.

Prince Sihanouk pointed out that if he is elected president in the 1993 general elections, he will continue the policy of friendship with Vietnam. He hoped that the friendly relationship will be similar to the bilaterial relations in the 1960's and 1970.

Prince Sihanouk reasserted that he would visit Vietnam in the future and stressed that this would be his first official visit abroad as SNC chairman because he treasures the Cambodia-Vietnam relationship.

The prince believes that this visit will open a new period in the relations of friendship and fraternal cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam. He said that he would do his utmost to help Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong fulfill his noble mission.

Before presenting his credentials, Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong called on Foreign Minister Hor Namhong who warmly welcomed ambassador Tran Huy Chuong and expressed his desire to continually develop and strengthen the relations of solidarity, friendship, and fraternal cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam in the new situation.

Talks With Hun Sen

BK0612092591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] On 5 December, Comrade Tran Huy Chuong, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the SNC [Supreme National Council of Cambodia] called on His Excellency Hun Sen, vice president of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Cambodia, and member of the SNC.

Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong conveyed to Chairman Hun Sen the kind regards and best wishes of SRV Council of Ministers' Chairman Vo Van Kiet and other Vietnamese leaders.

Chairman Hun Sen expressed his thanks and asked Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong to convey his kind regards to Chairman Vo Van Kiet and other leaders of Vietnam.

On this occasion, Chairman Hun Sen reaffirmed the policy of the Cambodian People's Party and the State of Cambodia to continue to strengthen and develop solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam.

Chairman Hun Sen pointed out that Prince Norodom Sihanouk has consistently advocated solidarity and friendship with neighboring countries. He said that this stance of Prince Sihanouk conforms to the foreign policy of the Cambodian People's Party and the State of Cambodia.

Ambassador Tran Huy Chuong expressed his delight at seeing the great results achieved by the Cambodian people in the cause of their revival and in national construction and defense. The ambassador pledged that he would do his best to contribute to a consolidation and strengthening of the relations of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia.

Leaders Send Thai King Birthday Greetings

BK0612092291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in Thai 1130 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] On the occasion of the 64th birthday of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet of the Kingdom of Thailand, Chairman of the SRV Council of State Vo Chi Cong has sent a congratulatory message to the Thai monarch.

The message wishes the friendly relations and cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand to be steadily enhanced and improved in the long run.

On the same occasion, Chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet has sent a greeting message to Thai Prime Minister H.E. Anan Panyarachun.

The message states that a new era of relations and cooperation between the neighboring countries Vietnam and Thailand has begun. The message expresses a confidence that through efforts of the governments and peoples of the two countries, their friendly relations and cooperation for mutual interests between Vietnam and Thailand will be further developed for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries in the interest of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Thai Ambassador Hosts Reception on National Day

BK0612022791 Hanoi VNA in English 1626 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 5—Ambassador and Mrs. Suraphong Chaiyanam of Thailand gave a reception here today on the 64th birthday of the king of Thailand and the Thai national day.

Attending the reception were Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry Nguyen Cong Tan, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Le Mai, and representatives of international organizations in Hanoi.

Minister Nguyen Cong Tan and Ambassador Suraphong Chaiyanam proposed toasts to further development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Japan's Sumitomo Group Opens Office in Hanoi

BK0612022191 Hanoi VNA in English 1620 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 5—Sumitomo Group of Japan opened its office in Hanoi December 4.

Attending the inaugural ceremony organized by Sumitomo Group Director Mutsumi Hashimoto were Le Xuan Trinh, vice-chairman of the State Planning Commission, Ta Ca, vice minister of commerce and tourism, and representatives of concerned offices. Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yushita was present on the occasion.

Memorandum on Non-Refund Cultural Aid From Japan

BK0612022391 Hanoi VNA in English 1624 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 5—A memorandum on the reception of Japan's 1991 non-refund aid to Vietnam's cultural activities was signed here today by Vu Tuyen Hoang, vice minister of agriculture and food industry, and president of the Vietnamese Japanese Friendship Association, and Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yushita.

The aid valued at 18 million yen will be used for the purchase of audio-visual equipment for the Vietnamese Japanese Friendship House in Hanoi.

Present at the signing ceremony was Ms. Nguyen Thi Binh, president of the Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Associations.

Russian 'Goodwill' Flight Stops Over in Hanoi

BK0512163591 Hanoi VNA in English 1551 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 5—The Russian 'Goodwill' flight including eight sport planes and 33 pilots headed by I.P. Volko, president of the Aeronautics Lovers Association of the Soviet Union, made a stop-over in Hanoi on December 4.

The flight, organized by the Aeronautics Lovers Association of the Soviet Union and the Liaison Committee of Overseas Soviet Citizens, is bound for Australia via China, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia. It aims to develop relations among aeronautics lovers, establishing trade relations between Russia and other countries, and meeting with overseas Soviet citizens.

The Russian pilots were warmly received by Dang Huu, president of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association, Trinh Ngoc Thai, vice-president of the Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Associations, and Major General Pham Tuan, Vietnamese cosmonaut. They were also received by deputy foreign minister Vu Khoan.

At the meetings, the two sides reafirmed the common desire to develop the existing friendship and cooperation, especially economic cooperation, between Vietnam and the Russian Federative Republic .

The Russian pilots left Hanoi today, continuing their journey to Australia.

National Science Council Tests Key Project

BK0612131391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] On 30 November, the National Science Council conducted a feasibility test of a key national project as part of an effort to consider the possibility of standardizing the system of management of scientific and technical innovations.

The aims of this project, which is codednamed 60-A, were to study the situation regarding the system of theoretical and fundamental concepts. On this basis, efforts were to be made to come up with managerial and organizational measures and plans for scientific and technical activities; to clarify those aspects and points to be readjusted as part of a national policy; to clarify the macro and micro aspects of the entire organizational and managerial system for scientific and technical activities; to work out comprehensive managerial and organizational plans; to clarify all the special aspects of scientific and technical activities and, on this basis, to organize management in a rational manner. However, the project still put heavy emphasis on conducting studies on scientific and technical management while paying less attention to social science.

This project was rated a fairly good one by the above feasibility testing council.